

FBI

DAILY REPORT

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Asia & Pacific

Vol IV No 020

30 January 1985

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PROGRESS REPORTED AT ASEAN-PACIFIC MEETING

BK290947 Jakarta Domestic Service in Indonesian 0700 GMT 29 Jan 85

[Text] ASEAN and their Pacific dialogue partners have advanced toward the formation of a Pacific cooperation program. They have formed a committee to formulate working plans for the program, which will be discussed further in Kuala Lumpur between ASEAN foreign ministers and five Pacific countries: the United States, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, and Japan.

The Pacific cooperation program will be beneficial both to ASEAN and the Pacific countries, including the small nations of the South Pacific.

The 2-day meeting in Jakarta between ASEAN and the Pacific dialogue countries is scheduled to end today.

Meeting Ends

BK291343 Jakarta Domestic Service in Indonesian 1200 GMT 29 Jan 85

[Text] ASEAN senior officials and their Pacific dialogue partners ended their 2-day meeting in Jakarta today. The meeting successfully formulated several policies in the framework of developing ASEAN-Pacific human resources promotion programs. In addition, executive agencies and working programs have been mapped out.

The policies formulated by the ASEAN and Pacific groups are in line with basic provisions stipulated at the meeting of foreign ministers from the two regions in Jakarta in July of last year. The working programs are aimed at (?accelerating) efforts to make maximum use of human resources potential in the developing countries.

The outcome of the meeting in Jakarta will be further discussed at an ASEAN foreign ministers meeting in Bangkok next month. It will also be discussed at a meeting between ASEAN foreign ministers and their Pacific region counterparts in Kuala Lumpur in July.

NAKASONE POLICY SPEECH AT DIET SESSION 25 JAN

OW260505 Tokyo NHK Television Network in Japanese 0404 GMT 25 Jan 85

[Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone's policy speech at a House of Representatives plenary meeting of the resumed 102d regular Diet session -- live]

[Text] At this 102d regular session of the Diet which has just been resumed, I would like to review domestic and world developments and discuss policies to cope with them and, at the same time, enlist the understanding and cooperation of my fellow citizens.

Since I assumed my heavy responsibilities as prime minister, I have sought to attain an overall settlement of postwar politics: Externally, I have strived to develop Japan as an "international country" actively taking part in the work of promoting world peace and prosperity; internally, I have devoted all my efforts to building a country with a vigorous culture and conditions of welfare, poised to enter the 21st century.

[applause] I believe that it is my responsibility to firmly follow these fundamental foreign and domestic policies and to further consolidate and develop them with the broad support of the people of our nation. [applause]

This year -- the 60th year of Showa, or 1985 -- marks the 40th year since the end of the war in the 20th year of Showa, and the 100th year since the inauguration of the cabinet system in the 18th year of Meiji. This year, which is believed to represent a significant turning point in the stream of history, I keenly feel the need to make further efforts to carry out even bolder reforms in all fields on the basis of the actual accomplishments of our Japanese people thus far and to pass on a better Japan to our next generation. [applause]

Throughout the postwar era, we have deeply learned about freedom and peace, respect for fundamental human rights and legal order, and the significance and value of democracy. We have strived to implement these ideals with a firm determination to observe and further consolidate them through self-reflection on prewar Japan. I think that this attitude has become the basis of Japan's postwar development.

In this significant year, the 40th year since the end of the war, I would like to point out that we tend to lose our deep sense of gratitude for democracy, being accustomed to its benefits. I believe that, lest we forget its incomparably precious value, we should always think again of the way democratic politics should be, keep correcting any mistaken attitude regarding it, and strive to pass it on to our posterity. [applause]

In this connection, it is fundamentally important to always pursue politics in a forum open to the public, centering around practical policies. This is why I believe that promotion of dialogue and mutual understanding is essential to relations among the various parties and factions in the Diet. I welcome the dialogue currently being promoted among the ruling and opposition parties on the handling of lawbills. I will strive to further develop this dialogue and cooperation centered around policies. [applause]

In addition, on the issue of the allocation of Diet seats among constituencies -- an issue vital to the fundamentals of parliamentary democracy -- I hope that full discussions will be conducted among the various parties and factions. The government will make utmost efforts to have the present allocation of Diet seats among constituencies corrected.

Moreover, on the question of promoting political ethics, I hope that concrete, practicable measures will be worked out on the basis of the debates in the committees on political ethics of both the House of Representatives and the House of Councillors. At the same time, I will tackle this question with renewed determination.

I will now express my basic views on various fields in national politics.

Since detente between East and West suffered a setback in the 1970's, the international situation has continuously been fierce and the international climate frigid. However, recently there have been signs of slight improvement in the relations between the United States and the Soviet Union and in developments on the Korean peninsula. Of course, the international reality is still severe. However, I believe that it is important to turn this year into a bright one for the future of mankind by conducting a serious dialogue for easing tensions in the relations between East and West and in various regions and also by making efforts to promote international cooperation in handling the world economy.

Japan should be aware that its postwar economic development has been possible because of world peace and understanding and sympathy from the peoples of various countries. Now that it occupies an important position in the international community, it should actively contribute to the peace and prosperity of the world.

Acting from this viewpoint, at the beginning of the year I visited the United States and the Oceanian nations and held talks with the leaders of those countries. In the United States I reconfirmed with President Reagan that Japan and the United States should continue to closely cooperate with each other for the peace and prosperity of the world. With the Oceanian nations a consensus of opinion was reached on the importance of keeping world peace and promoting broad relations of friendship and cooperation for the development of that region.

The most essential thing for the peace and stability of the world today is to build mutually reliable, stable East-West relations. To that end, it is important that the free democracies of Japan, the United States, and Europe strive to help accelerate the dialogue between East and West centering around arms control and disarmament, while maintaining their unity. [applause]

To date Japan has availed itself of every opportunity to actively stress the importance of disarmament, particularly nuclear disarmament. In this connection, Japan welcomes the recent agreement reached between the United States and the Soviet Union on holding a new round of talks on strategic nuclear, intermediate-range nuclear, and space arms. I firmly believe that the talks, aimed at preventing an arms race in outer space and reducing and ultimately abolishing -- nuclear arms, will be an important cornerstone for the relaxation of tension. [applause]

The fact that talks are going on between East and West has, in itself, the effect of preventing the aggravation of tension. However, it is my belief that Japan should do its level best to help the talks produce speedy, practical results on the basis of an accord on mutually reliable, effective verification measures. [applause]

Meanwhile, with respect to disputes in the Middle East, Indochina, Latin America, and other regions, Japan will endeavor for the creation of environments conducive to their peaceful settlement through dialogues among the countries concerned.

To ensure the peace and security of our country, it is important to pursue policies in the diplomatic, economic cooperation, natural resources, energy resources, food resources, and various other fields from the viewpoint of overall security and, at the same time, promote the maintenance of an appropriate level of defense potential to cope with the severe international situation, while giving consideration to its harmony with various other policies. [jeers]

To this end, the government will promote the maintenance of a high-quality, efficient self-defensive capability within the bounds of necessity while promoting smooth, effective operation of the Japan-U.S. security arrangements. Of course, there is not the slightest wavering in our traditional policy of pursuing defense for the exclusive purpose of self-defense under the peace constitution, holding fast to the three nonnuclear principles and civilian control, and refraining from becoming a military threat to neighboring countries.

Although the world economy as a whole is basically headed toward recovery, there still remain difficult unresolved problems such as the high level of unemployment in the West European countries, the high interest rates in the United States, and the accumulated debts of developing countries. In the background of these problems are deep-rooted protectionist trends. Today, with the further deepening of international relationships of interdependence, I think it is the obligation of our country, which now accounts for 10 percent of the world economy, to actively contribute to the maintenance and strengthening of the free trade system and the activation of the world economy. [applause]

To this end, Japan will continue to strive for further opening up its domestic markets and promote the liberalization of the monetary and capital markets and the internationalization of the yen while promoting the continued expansion of the economy. At the same time, it will play an active role in bringing about the early start of a new round of multilateral trade negotiations. To contribute to the economic development of developing countries, Japan will also exert its best efforts for the further expansion of trade, economic, and technological cooperation. With the nation's cooperation I intend to step up wide-ranging assistance activities toward particularly those African countries that are afflicted by food crises.

In order for the international community to overcome the many difficulties and usher in a 21st century filled with hope and based on the principles of cooperation and solidarity, the establishment of relations of mutual understanding and confidence among the peoples of all countries is indispensable. In this regard I will continue to expand international exchanges in sports, art, cultural, and all other fields.

This year has specifically been designated by the United Nations as International Youth Year. Availing myself of this opportunity, I will strive to help in bringing up youth rich in international traits and aware of their own social responsibilities and Japan's position in the world and, at the same time, vigorously promote youth exchange programs so as to have Japan understood correctly by youth abroad. I will also pay attention to materializing student exchanges with foreign countries.

The preservation of the global environment is basic for the survival of mankind, and Japan hopes to contribute actively to that end. Since this year also happens to be International Forest Year, Japan will actively grapple with the preservation and cultivation of forestry resources on earth.

Next I will speak on relations with other countries. Japan is a member of the free World and, at the same time, a member of Asia. Considering the historical circumstances until now and Japan's position in the present international community, I think that we should also attach importance to friendship and cooperation with the developing countries and nonaligned nations.

First of all, maintaining and strengthening friendly, cooperative relations with the United States is the keystone of Japanese diplomacy. The relationship of alliance with the United States is the most important and wisest choice Japan has made since the war, and further development of Japanese-U.S. relations is an extremely important foundation for peace and prosperity in the Asian-Pacific region and the rest of the world. [applause] On the basis of my recent talks with President Reagan, I will strive to further develop our bilateral relations, including the smooth management of economic relations.

In the Asian region, I visited China last year and was able to confirm with the Chinese leaders the resolve to bring about stable development of bilateral relations with an eye on the 21st century. We will build unshakable bilateral relations in the days ahead in accordance with the four principles of peace and friendship, equality and mutual benefit, mutual trust, and long-term stability. [applause] Last September, ROK President Chon Tu-hwan paid an official visit to Japan, the first ever for a head of state of that country. I firmly believe that it was an epochal event in the long history of relations between the two countries, providing momentum for further consolidating the relations of good-neighborliness and friendship. [applause]

To further promote friendly, cooperative relations with the ASEAN member countries, I will pay attention to the expansion not only of economic ties but also of personnel, scientific, technological, and cultural interchanges and to playing an active role for peace and stability in that region.

Last year I visited Pakistan and India and exchanged frank views with leaders of the two countries, agreeing to strengthen friendly, cooperative relations in the days ahead. In the world today, the Pacific region abounds with vitality and dynamism, and has great potential for development in the 21st century. I am convinced that it is a historical trend for this region to further expand mutual interchanges and solidarity.

I think, however, that for the time being the expansion of such regional cooperation should be carried out mainly through private activities, centering around economic, technological, and cultural exchanges and cooperation. It should not exclude other regions and should be led by an upsurge of voluntary initiative among the ASEAN member countries in the main. If there should be such an initiative, our country together with the United States and other countries will render active cooperation and strive to carry out human resources development, information exchange, and other joint projects.

The West European countries share with Japan and the United States the basic values of freedom and democracy. I will continue to promote close solidarity and cooperation with them.

In our relations with the Soviet Union, persistent efforts will be made in the future, as in the past, to conclude a peace treaty after settling the northern territorial issue and to build stable relations on the basis of genuine mutual understanding. Of late, various exchanges have been resumed between Japan and the Soviet Union.

I welcome this trend, and I will strive for its gradual expansion, thereby building fruitful bilateral relations. I hope that the Soviet side will correctly understand the actual situation in our country, which is developing as a peace-loving state, and strive to deepen friendship between the two countries.

To resolve the mountain-high pile of problems facing Japan today in the political, economic, social, and all other fields and lay the foundation for a truly affluent society in the coming 21st century, I will continue to steadily carry out the three basic reforms -- administrative, fiscal, and educational reform. [applause] The government has been carrying out administrative reform, regarding it as one of the most important tasks in national administration, on the basis of the recommendations made by the Provisional Research Council on Administrative Reform and the Provisional Consultative Board on the Promotion of Administrative Reform.

Particularly from the last 101st Extraordinary Diet session until the beginning of the current session, bills pertaining to reform of the medical insurance system, reform of the Japan Tobacco and Salt Public Corporation and the Nippon Telegraph and Telephone Corporation, and other administrative reforms were enacted. With respect to the national pension and other revision bills, which have been under your deliberation since late last year, I ask that you act for their earliest enactment. [applause]

In the current Diet session, the administration plans to introduce bills for the reform of mutual aid annuities and the streamlining and rationalization of state participation in local public organizations. Regarding the authorized strength of national public service personnel, the government has decided to carry out an unprecedentedly drastic reduction involving as many as 6,482 persons.

With the nation's understanding and support I will continue to strive to promote further the streamlining and rationalization of the administrative structure, special-status corporations, and so forth; the reduction in force of national civil service personnel; and other administrative reforms. [applause] With respect to an administrative reform of local public organizations, an outline of local administrative reform, which is to serve as its guideline, has been worked out. To meet the strong expectations of the nation, the government will strive for its active implementation.

Financial reform and promotion of the recovery of financial capability to cope with the situation is an indispensable, urgent task for the future stability and development of our country. To this end, the government has been pushing ahead with fiscal reform under the goal of shaking itself free from dependence on deficit-covering government bonds with the aim of lowering the degree of dependence by 1990.

With regard to the 1985 budget, the government strove to review policies in all areas without slackening the reins and tackled further reductions and rationalization of expenditures including a bold readjustment and rationalization of subsidies. At the same time, from the viewpoint of promoting a fair and proper distribution of tax burdens, the government exerted its utmost effort in reviewing the taxation system in the area of revenue and strove to secure as much nontax income as possible.

Regarding local finances, the government also took necessary measures to insure their smooth operation.

As a result of these efforts in both expenditure and revenue areas, in the 1985 budget the government proposes to cut back the government bond issue by 1 trillion yen as compared with the previous year's originally estimated issue. It also proposes to contribute to replenishing the sources of revenue for the redemption of government bonds by reverting to the special account for national bond consolidation the disposable portion of the shares of the Nippon Telegraph and Telephone Corporation and other companies to be inaugurated. I think that this will mark an important step forward in fiscal reform in the midst of an extremely difficult environment. [applause]

For the past 3 year, including fiscal year 1985, the government has continued to take the stringent budgetary measure, unprecedented in the past, of lowering the increase in general expenditures to the point of a decline. During this period I have at times pleaded with the nation for perseverance in various areas and I have enjoyed cooperation with these stringent policies. In this regard, I feel deeply grateful to the nation.

The reform of the so-called K's, namely the rice [kome] system, the public health insurance system [kenpo], and the national railways [kokutetsu] has long been advocated as an important task in administrative reform. As far as rice is concerned, efforts to eliminate price supports that cover retail prices which are lower than state purchase prices have made considerable progress. Efforts to place the public health insurance account on a sound basis have begun to bear fruit. This year we will at last tackle the radical reform of the national railways in accordance with the recommendation of the Japan National Railway Reconstruction Supervisory Commission. [applause]

I believe that these continuing efforts for administrative reform have opened up the possibility of implementing the basic direction outlined in the recommendation of the Ad Hoc Administrative Research Council, that is, the goal of suppressing increases in the burden on the people as much as possible and trimming the fat in the government.

Meanwhile, through a review of regulatory controls and the reform of the public corporation system, private-sector resources, which form the foundation of the national economy, have been actively utilized. All of this, I believe, lays the groundwork for effecting the structural reform of our economic society as our nation moves into the 21st century.

Concerning the tax system in our country, various problems have been noted due to changes in our socioeconomic situation. This, I think, makes it necessary for us to take up from now on the task of reforming the entire tax system from a broad perspective, on the basis of active discussions among people from all walks of life.

In education, various problems have been noted, such as juvenile delinquency, excessive emphasis on academic backgrounds, and the need for diversification, flexibility, and liberalization. An appropriate reform is being called for to cope with these problems. Meanwhile, there is a growing demand for lifetime study, reflecting changes in the industrial structure and the rapid development of an aging information-based society. The internationalization of education is also an important task.

We have established an ad hoc education council to study all these extensive problems in education. We have asked the council to make a comprehensive review of the entire educational system.

I believe that educational reform should be carried out to achieve the goal of training people who can contribute to international society with a Japanese outlook, while maintaining and developing the intrinsic traditional Japanese culture, and of developing in them lofty ideals, physical strength, and rich individuality and creativity. I believe that the realization of educational reform is an important political mission today as we reach another milestone in history. I will attach maximum importance to the recommendation of the ad hoc education council when it is submitted and I will tackle educational reform with all my might so that we can train mentally proficient youths who will carry the 21st century on their shoulders. [applause]

Overall, our economy has continued to expand, although there are some areas which have lagged behind. From now on, I will do my best to maintain the current economic recovery to achieve sustained stable growth centering around growing demand in the private sector, while maintaining the stability in basic price trends.

In constantly vitalizing our society socioeconomically and achieving optimum economic growth, it is essential to put private-sector resources to maximum use. To this end, we will make a drastic review of regulatory controls, with consideration given to public interest, so that the private sector can expand its realm of free activity. At the same time, we will promote the creation of an environment conducive to the utilization of private-sector resources by, for instance, introducing new business systems, like the one represented by the newly chartered Kansai International Airport Corporation, and further continuing to promote the effective utilization of state-owned land for the consolidation of social capital. We will also make efforts to actively utilize private-sector resources in social services and in such new fields as tree planting projects.

For our country to move forward toward fresh development in the 21st century, it is important to develop creative science and technology. It is also necessary for Japan to contribute to the development of mankind by stepping up international scientific and technical cooperation. From now on, we will step up our efforts to consolidate the groundwork for putting private-sector resources to maximum use and to develop science and technology through cooperation among industry, academia, and government.

An international science-technology exhibition, on the theme of "man, dwelling, environment, and science and technology," is scheduled to open in Tsukuba Gakuentoshi, a research and academic city, on 17 March. I want to make this national project a success without fail, hoping that this year marks a new leap forward for our country, which seeks to be a country founded on science and technology.

Thanks to the remarkable renovation and popularization of information- and communications-related technologies, Japan is about to enter what may be called a forerunner of an advanced information-based society. The introduction of an advanced information network system will not only promote industrial vitalization and economic development but also greatly contribute to assuring the people an intelligent, cultured, and more affluent livelihood, bringing about local communities which are unique and charming, and developing an international society supported by mutual understanding.

To this end, we will promote research and development on pertinent basic technologies, establish safety and reliability measures, and actively tackle the task of consolidating the foundations for smoothly realizing an advanced information society by taking other necessary measures.

We will also make efforts to fully introduce the principle of free competition in the electronic communications field on the basis of the reform of the Nippon Telegraph and Telephone Public Corporation, which has been put into effect recently. In addition, the government will create conditions necessary for secure employment in this changing situation characterized by rapid progress in technical innovations. We will also continue to take measures to improve our agriculture, forestry, and fisheries, with emphasis placed on the improvement of productivity, and devote greater efforts to foster the small and medium businesses that are creative and viable enough to be able to actively cope with severe environmental changes.

By ushering in the so-called era of an 80-year life span, Japan has become one of the countries whose citizens enjoy the longest average life span in the world. Since time immemorial, people have wished for longevity. Therefore Japan should be congratulated on being a country known for longevity. In order that this lengthened life be made one of fulfillment and abundance, it is necessary to build a kind of social system that enables people to live a life worth living throughout their entire life span. Particularly, there is a firm need for a foresighted reform of the social security system, which underpins people's livelihood, that is carried out with prudence and vision. [applause]

The reform of the medical insurance system legislated in the last Diet session marks the first step in this direction. Regarding the pension systems, we plan to reform the mutual annuity system, in addition to the reform of the national pension system and the welfare annuity insurance system currently under Diet deliberation, so that all these public pension systems can be integrated into one by 1995. In this way, our social security system will be consolidated into an unshakable, stable system in which fairness between generations is insured. [applause] I believe this kind of reform of the social security system will serve as an important pillar for the current administrative reform.

It is considered important that we, based on these institutional reforms, extend the mandatory retirement age and implement other devices to enable the elderly to contribute to society with their unique experience and capabilities, and thus to encourage their positive role in society. In addition, we will extend warm assistance to those who are in socially and economically weak positions, including the bed-ridden elderly and the handicapped.

We will promote comprehensive health and medical care programs, including schemes to improve the spiritual and physical well-being of citizens, so that every citizen can enjoy a healthy life all of the time. Especially, regarding cancer, which is the prime cause of death in our country and about which our people are deeply concerned, we will continue to strive to control it and, to that end, will implement both comprehensive and preferential measures based on the "Comprehensive 10-Year Strategy Against Cancer." We will also pay special attention to measures involving other chronic diseases.

What the people want now is spiritual affluence. With this in mind, I will endeavor steadily and continuously to build local communities filled with understanding, courtesy, and affection. [applause]. Measures will be taken to further upgrade social capital, including measures to ensure the supply of comfortable and adequately spacious housing. At the same time, efforts will be made to build safe and pleasant environments for residents, surrounded by flowers and green areas, in cooperation with local public organizations. Furthermore, I will see to it that each local community displays its ingenuity and builds a township or village that fully demonstrates its unique cultural features. [applause]

This year marks the last year of the "UN Decade for Women." Based on our accomplishments heretofore, further positive measures will be taken to improve the position of women. Especially, maximum efforts will be made to ensure the ratification of the so-called treaty for an end to discrimination against women. In order to ensure safety for our people in their daily life, I will endeavor to secure peace and order and to upgrade disaster relief programs and traffic safety measures. Regarding vicious crimes that cause widespread public fears, I will do everything in my power to control them and apprehend offenders, with the cooperation of our people. [applause]

Thanks to the incessant efforts of our people in the 40 years since the end of the war, our nation could endure hardship and overcome many difficulties in building the prosperity and economic stability we see today. Looking back, I believe each and every fellow citizen will be filled with deep emotion over the long history of hard struggle through which he or she has lived.

Today, those who were born in the year of the Tokyo Olympic Games, the year which marked the peak of Japan's growth, are celebrating their Coming-of-Age-Day. Japan has experienced great changes. There have been great changes in Japan's international position, as well as in the life and thinking of the Japanese people. We must correctly grasp this great flow of change, firmly establish ourselves as a member of the international community and win its respect and trust. And we must build an affluent Japan full of vitality for our next generation. Doing so is the mission of our generation. I believe that this is the time for the people of all strata in this country to make all-out efforts to lay the track toward the 21st century, and to hand the bright, powerful epochal torch over to the next generation that will shoulder the next era.

While we face severe circumstances, we have been making steady advances. Administrative reform has reached a half-way point, while the fiscal reform program is now underway. Our national economy, emerging from the consequences of the second oil crisis and steadily regaining its vitality in the past 2 years, is consolidating its foundations for new developments. The enthusiastic desire of our people for advancing from a material age to a spiritual one is finding its expression in their strong expectations of educational reform. Regarding the nation's international ties of friendship and solidarity, they have strengthened and expanded in our relations with the United States, neighboring nations and other countries of the world and in all areas of politics, the economy, and culture. Japan's position has firmly expanded its base and increased its stability.

Needless to say, our moves toward reform should not be ones aimed at severing continuity from the past or indulging in fantasies about the future. We owe today's Japan to our forefathers and predecessors who strenuously worked to build it. At the same time, it is the fatherland that is precious to our posterity. I believe that we should create a unique Japanese culture on the basis of Japan's long history and traditions and drawing on its precious experiences, and that only this effort will lead to true reform and true internationalization. [applause]

The 21st century is close at hand. I am convinced that the path we are pursuing now is the only path for us to follow. Let us continue to advance tirelessly and even more vigorously, no matter what ordeals may be in store ahead of us. [applause]

Once again, I would like to ask my fellow citizens for their understanding and cooperation. [applause]

ABE OUTLINES FOREIGN POLICY AT DIET SESSION

OW261015 Tokyo NHK Television Network in Japanese 0442 GMT 25 Jan 85

[Japanese Foreign Minister Shintaro Abe's foreign policy speech at the 25 January opening meeting of the House of Representatives of the resumed 102d Diet session -- live]

[Text] At the resumption of the 102d Diet session, I would like to outline Japan's basic foreign policy. This year, 1985, marks the 40th year since the end of World War II. Recovering from the pitiful wartime devastation after its defeat in the war, our country has now secured a firm place as a stable democracy and the second largest economic power in the free world, and it carries political and economic weight in the international community. In today's international community where mutual dependence among nations is ever increasing, it is essential for Japan -- for the maintenance of Japan's own peace and prosperity -- to become a country open to the world, economically and socially, and to make more active contributions to the world's peace and prosperity.

On the current international situation, many years of military buildup by the Soviet Union and the Soviet advance into the Third World -- such as Afghanistan -- against the backdrop of this buildup, East-West relations have been strained, U.S.-USSR relations in particular. Under these circumstances, an agreement was reached at the recent U.S.-USSR foreign ministers conference concerning the framework of U.S.-USSR negotiations on arms control and disarmament. Japan, for one, hails this agreement and strongly hopes that practical progress will be made in these negotiations.

Conflicts still persist in various areas, such as the Middle East, Africa, Central America, and Indochina.

In the world economy, there is an overall trend toward gradual expansion, mainly in the advanced countries. The pace of expansion will slow down this year, but it is expected that the basic expansionary trend will be maintained.

The world economy is still beset with many problems, such as structural fiscal deficits, the acute employment situation, protectionist pressures, and cumulative international debts. Under this severe international situation, all depends on the determination and cooperation of various countries in the world whether they will be able to secure world peace and prosperity and blaze a bright path into the 21st century.

I believe Japanese foreign policy has a responsibility to contribute to world peace and prosperity through positive and creative diplomacy. [applause] Given this fundamental realization, I intend to unfold positive diplomacy for Japan, both as a liberal democracy and as a country in the Asia-Pacific region.

I will now present my basic views on various, immediate foreign policy tasks. Since Japan, with freedom and democracy as its basic ideals, has maintained its prosperity through the free market economy, it is essential to maintain close cooperative relations with other countries which share the same values in handling problems concerning world peace and prosperity. With this realization, Japan actively participated in the signing of various declarations, including the one on the values of democracy, at the London summit last year -- which were sequels to the political declaration of the Williamburg summit -- and has endeavored to promote close cooperative ties with other major advanced democracies.

It is important for liberal democracies, as a basic stance, to maintain full deterrent power necessary for peace as well as to carry out dialogue and negotiations with the Soviet Union and other Eastern countries. Aware of the reality that world peace is being preserved through the balance of power, including nuclear parity, Japan has made active efforts in various forums, including the UN disarmament conference, to contribute to achieving effective and concrete disarmament measures designed to maintain this balance at the lowest possible level. I myself attended the UN disarmament conference last June to appeal that the conference add momentum to the promotion of world disarmament.

Needless to say, the United States and the Soviet Union today share a particularly weighty responsibility for world peace and stability. We highly appreciate and welcome the basic agreement reached between the United States and the USSR at the Geneva talks early this month on future U.S.-USSR negotiations. Although it is difficult to be optimistic about the outcome of these negotiations at this stage, Japan will strongly appeal to the United States and the Soviet Union to approach these negotiations seriously and positively to produce substantive results as soon as possible.

Japan-U.S. friendship and cooperation based on the security arrangements between the two nations constitutes the axis of our nation's foreign policy. Satisfactory preservation and development of this relationship is an important factor ensuring not only our country's security and prosperity but the peace and security of Asia and the world as well. [jeers]

Based on this perception, the prime minister and I recently had a frank exchange of views with President Reagan and Secretary of State Shultz in Los Angeles on issues relating to the peace and prosperity of the world. I think that the exchanges were extremely useful in further strengthening the mutual trust between Japan and the United States. The government will make further efforts for the satisfactory management of Japan-U.S. relations. At the same time, it will continue to promote Japan-U.S. cooperation in international affairs.

Meanwhile, our cooperation with Canada, another partner in North America, is also increasing its importance.

In our relations with European nations, both sides are feeling the increasing need for broader-range cooperation which is not confined to economics, but covers political and other fields as well. The government is endeavoring for closer relations with European nations through political dialogue. Regarding our economic relations with them, which in the past tended to be dominated by friction and confrontation, a Japan-EC Ministerial Council held its first meeting last year, indicating an improvement in the atmosphere toward dialogue and cooperation. Our country will carry on its efforts for close and broad-range dialogue with European nations in wider areas.

The importance of the Asian and Pacific region in the international community has further increased in recent years. Many countries in this region are demonstrating their young, dynamic vitality and registering high growth rates. In order to help them to fully display their vitality, our country plans to promote friendship and cooperation with nations in the region, and to endeavor for loosely knit, open cooperation from a long-term point of view for the peace and prosperity of the region. Especially, our country welcomes the fact that the expanded ASEAN foreign ministers conference last year took up the "future of the Pacific" theme for the first time.

Concerning our relations with the ROK, President Chon Tu-hwan's historic visit to Japan last year opened a new chapter in the history of Japan-ROK relations. It is important that, with that visit as a turning point, Japan and the ROK build everlasting good-neighborliness and friendship between them from a global point of view as mature friends. Furthermore, while keeping an eye on developments in the dialogue between the two parties -- the North and South -- on the Korean peninsula, as well as on moves of other countries concerned, our country plans to continue to make every possible effort to help ease the tension on the peninsula. As for our relations with North Korea, we plan to maintain exchanges in the economic and cultural areas under our present basic policy toward the Korean peninsula. [jeers]

Through the prime minister's visit to China last year the relations between our country and China have now ushered in a most stable era. With a view to developing the presently good bilateral relations on a long-term, stable basis with an eye on the 21st century, the government intends to strive for the establishment of mutual understanding and mutual trust through constant dialogue. At the same time, it also intends to continue extending as much cooperation as practicable to China's modernization efforts and strive to promote friendly and cooperative relations in a wide range of areas.

ASEAN admitted Brunei as a new member in January last year, thus expanding the foundation for its (?flight) and enhancing its position as a stable force in Southeast Asia. Our country intends to continue to support the endeavors of the ASEAN member countries for stability and prosperity.

In Indochina, the Cambodian issue still remains unresolved. Our country will continue to back the efforts of ASEAN for a comprehensive political solution to that issue and, at the same time, continue to make sustained efforts for the creation of an environment for the settlement of the issue by maintaining dialogue with Vietnam.

In the Southwest Asian region, a lamentable incident, the assassination of Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, occurred last year, but the general elections in India and other moves desirable for stability in that region have since been observed. Our country intends to continue extending as much cooperation as possible for the stable development of that region and, at the same time, strive to further consolidate the traditionally friendly relations with the countries in that region.

Along with the prime minister, I recently visited the four Oceanian countries of Australia, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, and Fiji, and I think that the tour contributed greatly to the strengthening of relations between our country and those countries. Japan intends to continue to strive for further promotion of friendly, cooperative relations with the Oceanian countries.

With respect to our relations with the Soviet Union, it is our traditionally consistent basic policy to establish stable relations with the Soviet Union, an important neighbor of our country, on the basis of genuine mutual understanding by resolving the northern territorial issue, the biggest issue pending between Japan and the Soviet Union, and concluding a peace treaty.

Due to the Soviet military buildup in the Far East and particularly in the northern territories carried out in the recent years, in addition to the fact that the northern territorial issue remains unresolved, Japanese-Soviet relations still remain basically in a difficult situation. Yet the more difficult the relationship, the more important it is to maintain an unbroken dialogue and strengthen and expand it.

The government has been holding various forms of political dialogue with the Soviet Union, including my two rounds of talks with Foreign Minister Gromyko held last year. The government intends to continue striving to draw even a step closer to the settlement of the issue through dialogue while maintaining the posture of putting forth demands which are appropriate. We hope that the Soviet side will correctly understand our country's position and show its desire for improved relations in concrete action. From this viewpoint, we will watch the Soviet side's future moves. [applause]

Our relations with East European countries, which occupy an important position in East-West relations, continue to show steady progress. Our country intends to strive for the promotion of mutual understanding and friendly relations with them, taking into consideration carefully-thought-out measures with their respective national situations and policies.

In the near and Middle East region, confrontations and conflicts among states and nations still continue and the situation remains fluid and unpredictable. In the Gulf region, the Iran-Iraq war still goes on, serving as a factor of instability in that region. Of course, our country is in no position to mediate or arbitrate the conflict; but, proceeding from its desire for peace and stability in that region, it has been exerting independent efforts to create a climate that is conducive to an early, peaceful settlement of the conflict. Japan is resolved to continue such efforts tenaciously while closely cooperating with the United Nations and the countries concerned.

Our country also hopes for an early reconciliation among the different forces in Lebanon and realization of the withdrawal of foreign forces. At the same time, with the perception that the settlement of the Middle East peace issue is indispensable to stability in that area, Japan intends to continue working on the parties concerned to take flexible and realistic measures.

It is extremely regrettable that Soviet forces have not yet withdrawn from Afghanistan, more than 5 years after their intervention there. [applause] In order for the Afghan issue to be settled, it is necessary that four conditions be met: the total withdrawal of Soviet forces, the restoration of the political independence of Afghanistan and its position as a nonaligned nation, respect for the right to self-determination, and a safe and honorable return of the Afghan refugees. Japan is resolved to continue striving for their fulfillment in cooperation with the countries which share the same aspirations. [applause]

In the Latin American region, progress has been observed in the process of democratization in the recent years, but many countries are making great efforts to overcome the accumulated debts issue and other economic difficulties. Japan, in cooperation with other advanced countries, intends to exert as much effort as possible to help their endeavors.

With respect to the Central American issue, our country strongly supports the peacemaking efforts of the Contadora Group nations and other countries in the region. At the same time, it strongly hopes that peace and stability will be brought to the Central American region at an early date in keeping with the efforts of the countries in the region for democratization and national reconciliation. During my recent first official visit to Colombia, I explained our country's position on this and obtained a high evaluation from the Colombian side.

Africa now faced food shortages and other serious economic difficulties. As a result of the African Month campaign held last week, the attention of the government and private sectors to that region has been remarkably heightened. At the UN General Assembly session last year, I emphasized the importance of the international community's support to Africa; and I personally inspected the drought-stricken areas in Africa and, after returning home, made a public appeal calling for urgent support to Africa.

This active posture taken by our country toward Africa has become the focus of the international community's attention. The government plans to continue carrying out economic cooperation and other extensive assistance activities and, at the same time, appeal internationally for strengthened support to Africa. I express deep thanks to the people for the cooperation they have rendered thus far. [applause]

In south Africa, efforts for an early attainment of Namibia's independence are being continued by the United Nations and the countries concerned. Our country intends to continue rendering cooperation toward the efforts of the countries concerned for the settlement of that issue.

Today, when the international relationship of interdependence has further deepened, it is the obligation of our country, which plays an important part in the world economy, to contribute to checking the emergence of protectionism, maintaining and strengthening the free trade system, and developing the international economy. International economic relations encompassing our country have become harsher, but it is important for the wholesome development of the Japanese economy that Japan do its very best wherever possible to settle pending issues.

From this viewpoint, our country adopted external economic measures in April and December last year with respect to further opening Japanese markets, liberalizing monetary and capital markets, and facilitating investment exchanges. To tackle external economic problems more independently and actively, a cabinet Council on External Economic Affairs and its Advisory Council were established late last year. Through their energetic activities, I intend to further open up the Japanese economic society to the world.

Regarding the new round of multilateral trade negotiations advocated by our country, the climate for it is being created little by little internationally. Japan will make further efforts for its early start in cooperation with the countries concerned.

A scientific and technological exhibition is scheduled to be held at Tsukuba this year. It is important that Japan actively promote international cooperation in the scientific and technological field, recognizing its importance.

As is evident from the fact that many of the regional conflicts and economic crises last year occurred in developing countries, stability and development of developing countries are indispensable to peace and prosperity of the world. Therefore, it is all the more important that our country make active contributions to settling the North-South issue on the basis of the spirit of goodwill and cooperation as confirmed at the London summit last year.

For our country to fulfill its international role, it is necessary to further amplify the official development assistance [ODA] programs. The government is endeavoring to expand them under mid-term objectives, and in the 1985 budget, it gave special consideration to the ODA, increasing it by 10 percent over the preceding year.

To meet the international community's expectations for the planned expansion of the ODA commensurate with its economic capabilities, Japan intends to continue to do its very best. In striving to expand Japan's ODA under the difficult financial situation today, needless to say, Japan should promote a more effective and efficient operation of assistance programs. The settlement of the accumulated debts issue is an important problem for the international community in order to realize wholesome economic development of developing countries. As for our country, it intends to actively grapple with efforts to resolve the issue in cooperation with international organizations and the parties concerned.

Dealing with the refugee problem cropping up in all parts of the world is an urgent task. Through the extension of funds and food aid to refugees of the world, including the African refugees suffering from famine, and accepting Indochinese refugees, our country intends to continue contributing to the settlement of the problem.

The United Nations marks its 40th founding anniversary this year. It is important to strengthen the United Nations and its organizations into arenas for truly efficient international cooperation. Therefore, Japan intends to actively strive to vitalize the functions of the UN organizations in general, strengthen the UN peace-keeping functions and its function of providing development assistance; it will also strive for administrative and fiscal reforms in the whole UN system.

This year also marks the last year of the UN decade for women. The government plans to exert its best efforts to realize, before the World Women's Conference scheduled for July, the ratification of the so-called treaty for the repeal of discrimination against women, for which it has been preparing since its signing. As one of the important tasks in foreign policy, I have been carrying out foreign policy in an easily understandable way, and at the same time, I have been striving to remove misunderstandings vis-a-vis other countries so they can achieve a mutually correct understanding of each other with respect to their national situations.

The government asks the nation for its understanding of and support for its foreign policy. It intends to strive to promote national-level international interchanges in cooperation with local self-governing bodies and the private sector as well. This year is designated as international youth year. The government intends to further promote personnel exchanges of youths. This is also a commemorative year marking the centennial of the resettlement of Hawaii, or a century since our government began overseas emigration work. Recognizing anew the role being played by Japanese descendants overseas, the government plans to continue efforts to provide assistance to overseas emigrants.

Japan's diplomacy faces many important tasks. To carry out diplomacy with vigor and mobility, I think it is urgent to strengthen and expand the system to carry it out. I think it is also necessary to give adequate consideration to protecting the lives and property of Japanese nationals working overseas, education in overseas markets, and other matters. The diplomatic mission in fulfilling Japan's international role in making active and creative contributions to peace and prosperity of the world with an eye to the 21st century under the difficult international climate -- as I stated above -- is indeed important.

At this juncture marking the 40th anniversary of the end of the war, I intend to exert efforts with all my heart with a renewed resolve to fulfill my mission. I thank the nation and my fellow dietmen for their cooperation, and I hope to have their powerful support in the days ahead. [applause]

NAKASONE ANSWERS QUESTIONS IN 29 JAN DIET DEBATE

OW291301 Tokyo KYODO in English 1244 GMT 29 Jan 85

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 29 KYODO -- Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone Tuesday reaffirmed broad support for U.S. President Ronald Reagan's "star wars" anti-missile defense program. Nakasone told the Diet Reagan called it a nonnuclear, defensive scheme ultimately designed to abolish nuclear arms. The prime minister said he supported the ultimate objective and gave his understanding to the star wars plan as a research program. Nakasone was replying to Yoshikatsu Takeiri, leader of Japan's No. 2 opposition Komeito Party, who took the floor in the House of Representatives (lower house) plenary session Tuesday afternoon.

Democratic Socialist Party leader Ryosaku Sasaki and Japan Communist Party leader Tetsuzo Fuwa followed Takeiri to pose questions in the lower house on the second day of the three-day plenary session of the Diet. During the morning, the prime minister responded to questions by Akira Ono, a Socialist, and Raishiro Koga, a Liberal-Democrat, in the House of Councillors session. Prime Minister Nakasone, in outlining government positions to those questioners, said he welcomes active interchanges between Japan and the Soviet Union both on the government and non-government levels.

On another topic of current concern, he said the United States has appreciated Japan's market-opening measures taken so far but has called for more Japanese efforts. The government supports inter-Korean efforts for dialogue as the Korean situation is important to the peace of Asia, Nakasone said.

The conservative premier denied Communist Party leader Fuwa's claim that U.S. President Reagan had asked Nakasone to persuade New Zealand to ease its antinuclear policy. Nakasone said he had neither received such a request nor urged New Zealand to do so when he met its leader David Lange earlier this month. New Zealand, which Nakasone visited on the last leg of a four-nation Oceanian trip January 13-20, bans port calls by nuclear-armed or nuclear-powered ships.

Prime Minister Nakasone said he will promote what he calls the Pacific Basin cooperation concept which is designed to promote cultural and economic development of the region. Nakasone said the Pacific area is a dynamic and promising region. The Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), which groups Thailand, Malaysia, Singapore, Indonesia, the Philippines and Brunei, should take initiatives to promote the idea -- rather than Japan or the United States, he said. The prime minister agreed with DSP leader Sasaki who urged the government to contribute its efforts to help the two superpowers reach agreement on disarmament. Japan will maintain solidarity with the United States and Western Europe to lead the superpower talks to success, he said.

On domestic issues, Nakasone said the government will review the taxation system and will divide the deficit-ridden Japanese National Railways into several companies and place them under private management after completion of a study now under way by an experts' panel. Nakasone also reiterated the government's posture on defense policy, saying it has no plans to seek a review of the country's basic defense platform, set in 1976, which calls for Japan to arm itself to repulse "limited-scale" aggression.

FISHERIES MINISTER SATO LEAVES FOR MOSCOW

OW300401 Tokyo KYODO in English 0346 GMT 30 Jan 85

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 30 KYODO -- Moriyoshi Sato, minister of agriculture, forestry and fisheries, took off from new Tokyo international airport (Narita) Wednesday morning to Moscow to break an impasse in the bilateral fisheries talks to set 1985 fish catch quotas in each other's 200-mile waters. Sato is hoping to meet with Soviet Fisheries Minister Vladimir Kamentsev during the day to settle the issue by Thursday, when a tentative bilateral fishing agreement expires. Before his departure, the minister called on Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone to report on the stalemated negotiation. Nakasone encouraged Sato, saying, "Do your best, I'll leave everything to you," government sources said.

Abe, Soviet Envoy Meet

OW301021 Tokyo KYODO in English 1009 GMT 30 Jan 85

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 30 KYODO -- Foreign Minister Shintaro Abe stressed the need for an early conclusion of fishery talks with the Soviet Union in a meeting Wednesday with Soviet Ambassador Vladimir Pavlov. Abe told Pavlov that an early fishery agreement between the two countries is important in overall bilateral relations, Foreign Ministry officials said. The foreign minister invited the Soviet ambassador to help break the impasse in the deadlocked fishery talks in Moscow.

The Abe-Pavlov meeting came as Agriculture, Forestry and Fishery Minister Moriyoshi Sato was heading for Moscow for high-level negotiations. Sato is carrying a personal letter from Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone addressed to Soviet Premier Nikolay Tikhonov, ministry officials said. During the meeting with Pavlov, Abe requested that a schedule be set for Sato to meet the Soviet premier, the officials said. Pavlov promised to convey the request to his home government.

U.S. NUCLEAR SUB LA JOLLA ARRIVES IN YOKOSUKA

OW281245 Tokyo KYODO in English 1224 GMT 28 Jan 85

[Text] Yokosuka, Kanagawa Pref., Jan. 28 KYODO -- The U.S. nuclear-powered submarine La Jolla arrived in Yokosuka Monday amid protests from local antinuclear groups. The 6,000-ton La Jolla is one of the Los Angeles-class attack submarines scheduled to be armed with nuclear-armed Tomahawk cruise missiles.

Officials from the Kanagawa prefectural government and Yokosuka municipal government Monday sought confirmation from the U.S. military authorities that the La Jolla is not armed with Tomahawk missiles, but the Foreign Ministry refused to intervene. The Foreign Ministry said the government is "convinced" the sub is not nuclear-armed since U.S. authorities have not sought prior consultation with Japan.

Portcalls by U.S. nuclear-armed warships require prior approval by the Japanese Government under the country's nonnuclear policy. Local antinuclear groups called at the Yokosuka U.S. Naval Base to file their protest on the submarine's portcall, claiming it would lead to regular portcalls by Tomahawk-armed warships.

CPRF ISSUES STATEMENT ON 'TEAM SPIRIT-85'

SK300926 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 0800 GMT on 30 Jan 85

[Statement issued by a CPRF spokesman on 30 January in Pyongyang -- read by announcer]

[Text] The U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppet clique are trying to dare to wage the largest scale "Team Spirit-85" joint military exercise against our republic in defiance of the strong protest and denunciation of public opinion at home and abroad.

Already through a KCNA statement and telephone notices, we have asked that the United States and the South Korean side immediately call off the plan for the reckless military exercise, and we have proposed that a contact be held between vice premiers of the two sides in order to find a way out of the difficulties laid in the way of North-South dialogue, considering that the "Team Spirit-85" joint military exercise is a grave provocative act of laying obstacles in the way of hard-won North-South dialogue and of extremely aggravating the situation prevailing on the Korean peninsula.

Our principled demand and proposal -- an expression of a sincere and honest peace-loving stand to check the maneuvers of provokers threatening and attacking the other side to dialogue, to save North-South dialogue which is in jeopardy, and to ease the situation on the Korean peninsula at any cost -- was a very timely and just step. This notwithstanding, instead of trying to accept our proposal, the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppet clique are planning to dare to wage the "Team Spirit-85" joint military exercise, justifying their criminal war drill with such a preposterous sophism as an annual exercise or a defense drill (?against provocation).

They are planning to throw into this war exercise some 200,000 troops, including the U.S. imperialist aggression troops occupying South Korea; tens of thousands of U.S. Army, Air Force, and Navy troops from the U.S. mainland and the Pacific and the South Korean puppet army; an aircraft carrier fleet; nuclear-equipped warplanes, including B-52 strategic bombers and F-16 fighter-bombers; missiles; and numerous pieces of modern technological equipment.

This high number of troops and military equipment is being massed from the U.S. mainland to military bases, including their Okinawa base, in Japan and the Pacific, and are ready to depart for sites in South Korea. Furthermore, the U.S. warmongers have reportedly already drawn and distributed to the military personnel who will participate in this exercise as many as 100,000 copies of a military map which is visible at night, for use in special operations.

No one guarantees that this exercise, which will be waged by a large number of armed forces -- even more than a NATO joint military exercise which the U.S. imperialists wage by mobilizing troops of many countries in Western Europe -- and with which a complete war can be conducted, will not expand into a real war to invade us at any moment.

The waging of many kinds of military operations, such as large-scale air-borne, aerial attack, landing, river-crossing, and guerrilla operations, shows that this rehearsal is a combined preliminary war to invade our republic on the ground, at sea, and in the skies.

In particular, it has been reported that the Green Berets, a special unit called a unit of devils which has not previously taken part will be thrown into this exercise.

The participation in this exercise of this notorious murderous unit which conducts scorching operations while engaging in espionage, subversion, murder, arson, and intrigue by infiltrating into the rear area of the other side with small nuclear bombs which can be carried on the back, shows that the U.S. imperialists are trying to conquer the northern half of the republic at a single stroke by provoking a 3-dimensional nuclear attack war in the frontal and rear areas of our country.

All of these facts clearly confirm that the "Team Spirit-85" joint military exercise is not merely an annual drill, but a drill for offensive operations which assumes an extremely provocative and criminal nature and is a nuclear test war to trigger a nuclear war on the Korean peninsula.

The thing that we should not overlook is the fact that, before staging the upcoming military exercise, the South Korean puppets, under the command of the U.S. imperialist aggressors, committed the grave piratical act of trying to abduct our peaceful fishing boats returning along a normal course in the open sea east of our country, threateningly firing at them by even mobilizing warships. In light of the fact that this incident occurred on the eve of the joint military exercise called "Team Spirit-85," we can only interpret this as a sort of offensive operation against us.

The direct commitment of a piratical act against us while trying to stage a nuclear offensive exercise by regarding us as an enemy glaringly reveals the fraudulent and false nature of the upcoming exercise that has been described as a nonprovocative defensive exercise. Because of this, the political, social, and press circles of all the peace-loving countries of the world as well as all the Korean people unanimously oppose and reject the joint military exercise called "Team Spirit-85" by the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppet clique.

On behalf of all the people, the CPRF describes and denounces the indiscreet maneuvers of the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppet clique to forcefully stage the provocative war exercise called "Team Spirit-85" despite all the strong protest and denunciation at home and abroad as an intolerable war racket designed to disturb peace on the Korean peninsula, to destroy dialogue, and to hinder peaceful reunification.

Today's situation shows that our principled stand to point out the responsibility of the United States and the South Korean authorities, who have laid obstacles to the North-South economic and Red Cross talks, is very just. We cannot hold dialogue while the sentiment of confrontation is being fanned. We cannot improve North-South relations while tension is being heightened. If the United States and the South Korean authorities truly want to hold dialogue with us and to guarantee peace, they should change their attitude of confrontation into one of dialogue, turn their policy of war into one of peace, and create an atmosphere for dialogue.

The United States and the South Korean authorities should immediately stop the provocative "Team Spirit-85" joint military exercise though it is late, accept our proposal for tripartite talks without delay, and should handle North-South dialogue sincerely.

If tension is heightened on the Korean peninsula and if the danger of war increases there, this will never benefit the United States and the South Korean authorities. If the United States and the South Korean authorities traverse the road of continuously aggravating our country's situation by clinging to the provocative war exercise despite our repeated warnings, they will have to bear total responsibility for all consequences.

[Dated] Pyongyang, 30 January 1985

OKINAWA TERMED 'WAR-BASE FOR INVASION'

SK300900 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 0954 GMT 29 Jan 85

[NODONG SINMUN 29 January commentary: "Seeking an Opportunity To Conduct a Surprise Landing"]

[Text] The U.S. imperialists are planning to conduct provocative war exercises in other areas in the Far East simultaneously with the "Team Spirit-85" combined military exercise starting 1 February. According to reports, the U.S. Marine Corps will conduct a large-scale landing exercise on Okinawa from 1 to 11 February, mobilizing some 3,000 marines and numerous warships and helicopters. A Japanese news agency pointed out that this exercise and the "Team Spirit-85" military exercise will be conducted simultaneously.

This landing exercise by the U.S. forces of aggression is an adventurous war exercise aimed at invading our republic and a vicious challenge to the Korean people. A landing exercise is an outspoken aggressive war exercise aimed at invading another country by force. The U.S. Marine Corps is a shock brigade which is the first to ignite a war when the U.S. imperialists invade another country.

The most important of the events in the "Team Spirit-85" war exercise which the U.S. imperialists conduct annually in South Korea, is a landing operations exercise. The U.S. imperialists conducted a large-scale landing operations exercise at an advanced stage of last year's "Team Spirit" exercise, choosing an area on the east coast whose topography is similar to that of the northern half of the republic and throwing crack units of their Army, Navy, and Air Force there.

A main force unit in this landing operations exercise is the 3d U.S. Marine Corps Division, which has built its nest on Okinawa. The U.S. Marine Corps will conduct a basic preliminary exercise on Okinawa island prior to conducting an on-the-spot landing operations exercise on the Korean peninsula. The U.S. Marine Corps landing exercise which will be conducted on Okinawa is evidence that the U.S. imperialists are seeking an opportunity to launch a surprise landing in areas of the northern half of the republic.

Okinawa has become the U.S. imperialists' war base for a Korean invasion. The U.S. imperialists' war instruments concentrated there are operated with Korea as their target. Military aircraft and warships visit this island very frequently, tanks are concentrated there, and 8-inch cannons which can fire neutron bombs are deployed there. A live-ammunition shooting exercise using 105-mm howitzers is being conducted, shaking heaven and earth. Such a move can be seen only during wartime or on the eve of war.

It is a well-known fact that the offensive exercises the U.S. imperialists conducted on Okinawa prior to the Korean war of aggression in 1950 were repeated during actual fighting on the Korean peninsula. It is not incidental that Okinawan residents worry that the situation on Okinawa bears a close resemblance to that of the eve of a war. Okinawa has been further prepared as a sortie, supply, and transit base for the U.S. imperialists' aggression of Korea. All these facts show that the U.S. imperialists are frantic about provoking a new war in Korea by any means.

The U.S. imperialists are babbling about peace in words but they pursue war in deeds. The U.S. imperialists cannot escape the responsibility for aggravating the situation on the Korean peninsula and increasing the danger of war. The United States should immediately call off the war exercise against the Korean people and not commit acts which intensify the tense situation.

SOUTH MINISTER'S TALKS WITH SINGLAUB DECRIED

SK300522 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 1245 GMT 29 Jan 85

[Commentary by station commentator Cho Tu-ul: "Crafty Juggling Remarks"]

[Text] According to a report, the so-called puppet minister of culture and information, in a 28 January meeting with Singlaub, former chief of staff of the U.S. forces in South Korea, babbled that the so-called friendly and cooperative relations between South Korea and the United States are contributing to the peace and security of Northeast Asia. On that occasion, he pretended to be interested in North-South dialogue and exchanges, while irritating us by babbling about the North's false peace offensive and so forth. This is to justify the U.S. imperialists' occupation of South Korea and their policy of using it as a colony and military base, and to conceal their criminal nature of pouring cold water over the atmosphere of North-South dialogue and aggravating the situation with such a large provocative war exercise as "Team Spirit-85." At the same time, this is to divert to us the main thrust of the denunciation being directed toward them from at home and abroad. Thus, this is extremely shameless and foolish trickery.

The so-called U.S.-South Korean friendly and cooperative relations which the puppets babble about are, thoroughly, master-servant relations and the whole world knows this. By utilizing the South Korean puppets, by implementing the policy of seeking a colony and military base in South Korea, and by using South Korea as a foothold, the U.S. imperialists are seeking to fulfill their unchanging aggressive ambition to bring Asia and the world under their control. Proceeding from this stand, the U.S. imperialists are permanently maintaining some 40,000 U.S. troops in South Korea, and turning South Korea into a more dangerous nuclear forward base by continuing to introduce nuclear weapons and other mass-destruction weapons. Moreover, the U.S. imperialists are scheming to mobilize and utilize the vast South Korean puppet armed forces and all its human and material resources to implement their strategy of aggression. To this end, they daily stage aggressive war exercise rackets aimed at starting a new war in Korea.

The large aggressive "Team Spirit-85" joint military exercise which the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets are planning to stage from 1 February through mid-April by mobilizing as many as 200,000 troops is precisely a part of the adventurous war maneuvers they seek. The "Team Spirit-85" joint military exercise is, in essence, a comprehensive preliminary war and nuclear experimental war aimed at attacking the northern half of the republic.

Because of the maneuvers of aggression and war which the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets are intensifying with each passing day, the situation in Korea and Northeast Asia is being further aggravated, and a dangerous situation in which a war may break out at any moment is being created.

The U.S. imperialists occupation of South Korea and their policy of war are standing factors obstructing peace and the peaceful reunification of the Korean peninsula, and endangering the safety of Northeast Asia. No debate is needed on this.

Nevertheless, the South Korean puppets babble about the so-called U.S.-South Korea friendly and cooperative relations, and rave about the peace of Northeast Asia. This is a nonsensical sophism aimed at justifying the U.S. imperialists' occupation of South Korea and their policy of aggression. At the same time, this is ridiculous gibberish which only discloses the ugly nature of the thoroughgoing stooges of the U.S. imperialists.

More intolerable is the fact that the puppets pretend to be interested in North-South dialogue and exchanges, and babble about the North's false peace offensive and so forth. This is an unbearable insult and unpardonable challenge against us who make all sincere efforts to hold North-South dialogue and to achieve peace in and the peaceful reunification of Korea.

As everyone knows, we are making all efforts for peace in and the peaceful reunification of Korea. Last year alone, we put forth the proposal for tripartite talks and made positive efforts for its implementation. In particular, last September, for the first time in the history of the division, we sent the relief goods overflowing with patriotic love to the South Korean flood victims, and proposed North-South contact and dialogue. As a result, the North-South economic talks and the contact between the North-South Red Cross organizations were finally arranged.

Even after U.S. and South Korean puppet troops committed such a grave act of provocation as the Panmunjom shooting incident, we put up with everything and decided to go to the site of the talks again. At the same time, in addition to the North-South economic and Red Cross talks, we newly proclaimed our stand of arranging even broader negotiations and developing them into higher-level talks.

But the puppets are continuing to ignore our sincerity while irritating us. This only discloses that they have no desire for dialogue. If the puppets are truly interested in dialogue, why are they planning to stage such an extremely provocative war exercise racket as "Team Spirit-85," and continuing to deliberately aggravate the situation? It is all too clear that the war exercise aimed at attacking the opposite party to dialogue is incompatible with the dialogue for peace, and will only heighten tensions.

Reality shows that the puppets are only seeking the line of confrontation and war, although they rave about dialogue and peace. With no trickery, can the puppets conceal their criminal act of heightening tensions in Korea and putting dialogue in crisis, and evade the strong protest and denunciation of public opinion at home and abroad?

PAPER CENSURES TONGIL ILBO FOR SLANDERING NORTH

SK290540 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 2154 GMT 28 Jan 85

[NODONG SINMUN 29 January commentary: "The Base and False Propaganda by the Slandorous Anticommunist Paper"]

[Text] TONGIL ILBO, published in Japan, reported that we and Chongnyon are preparing for vast destructive and subversive operations as the elections draw nearer in South Korea. This is an overseas version of the story about someone else's infiltration which puppet Chon Tu-hwan is raving about almost every day in South Korea. At the same time, this is a base and false propaganda staged by the political frauds to bridge the crisis with antirepublic and anti-Chongnyon intrigue.

Vicious and slanderous propaganda is being staged against our republic and the Chongnyon through falsifications by babbling about the information obtained from certain sources and so on. This is a stereotypical trick of TONGIL ILBO. TONGIL ILBO has been a thoroughgoing, reptile anticommunist newspaper of the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppet clique, organized and operated by dirty human garbage, such as Yi Yong-il, a servant of the international anticommunists, and a nation-selling, traitorous element.

Whenever the South Korean puppets face crisis, TONGIL ILBO becomes feverish in staging anticommunist intrigue. In 1980, when the Kwangju popular uprising took place, TONGIL ILBO slandered us by saying that the incident was a seditious intrigue masterminded by someone else. At the same time, on the eve of the IPU meeting in Seoul, TONGIL ILBO staged far-fetched false propaganda saying that we were planning to infiltrate so-called strike teams into South Korea. The false propaganda which TONGIL ILBO staged this time is also a part of this kind of intrigue. Thus, it is nothing more than a guest performance for the anticommunist farce of the South Korean puppets.

At present, the South Korean puppets are being isolated and rejected at home and abroad and their rule is in serious crisis. The Chon Tu-hwan puppet clique has, along with the United States, announced the plan of the "Team Spirit-85" joint military exercise, thus extremely aggravating the situation on the Korean peninsula and pouring cold water over the atmosphere for North-South dialogue. Because of this, it is now facing strong denunciation from our nation and the peace-loving peoples of the world. At the same time, on the eve of the elections in South Korea, the puppets are facing the people's furious resistance. The struggle of youths, students, and people is being intensified against the elections and supported by people of various levels, who are taking active moves. This is a serious blow to the puppets, who are attempting to gain a foothold for long-term office by masterminding a victory for the DJP lackeys in the elections.

Dissatisfied with the horrible terror-stricken atmosphere which they have created in South Korea, the puppets even ordered a Class A alert. This shows the seriousness of the crisis. It is precisely under these circumstances that TONGIL ILBO, a slanderous reptile anticommunist newspaper, spouted a stream of gibberish. This is a product of the directives of the Chon Tu-hwan ring which ordered cooperation for bridging over the situation.

Through TONGIL ILBO, the Chon Tu-hwan ring has tried to make their story about southward invasion appear true, in order to deceive public opinion. By doing so, it is trying to slander the international prestige of our republic and its peace-loving efforts for reunification, and is trying to promote sentiment for North-South confrontation among the South Korean people in an effort to evade their spirit of anti-dictatorial and antielection struggle. At the same time, the Chon Tu-hwan ring is describing the antielection struggle of the South Korean youths, students, and people of all strata as one masterminded by someone else, thus trying to justify the bestial suppression against them.

However, all this is a useless attempt. No one will ever be deceived by slanderous intrigue. The puppets even mobilized their reptile bugler to provoke us. By doing so, they have only disclosed their cowardliness once again.

TONGIL ILBO, a slanderous reptile newspaper, must not babble about nonsensical things but remain silent if it does not want to be denounced at home and abroad.

MOBILIZATION OF SOUTH 'VIPER' UNIT CONDEMNED

SK292337 Pyongyang KCNA in English 2329 GMT 29 Jan 85

[Text] Pyongyang January 30 (KCNA) -- The South Korean fascist clique staged a military exercise on January 28 with the mobilization of a unit of the puppet army called "Viper", according to a radio report from Seoul. The puppets incited war fever for northward invasion with a noisy row, exploding mines.

The Chon Tu-hwan fascist clique reveal their ugly color as warmaniacs by staging provocative military exercises of various forms in succession with the approach of the large-scale "Team Spirit 85" joint military rehearsal with the U.S. imperialist aggression forces.

TASS CITED ON U.S., JAPANESE CONTROL OF SOUTH

SK280402 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0348 GMT 28 Jan 85

[Text] Pyongyang January 28 (KCNA) -- TASS January 25 pointed out that the "open-door policy" of the Chon Tu-hwan puppet clique has reduced South Korea to a hereditary estate of the U.S. and Japanese multinational companies.

It said: "Export-free zones" began taking shape in South Korea from the early 1970's. There foreign companies are granted extraterritorial rights. As a result, Japanese and U.S. companies have things their way in the southern half of the Korean peninsula, having made their way into there, charmed by the large profits they could make there by harshly exploiting the cheap labor force of the South Korean workers and the "tax policy" of the South Korean puppet authorities favorable for foreign monopolies.

Noting that the bourgeois media keep mum about South Korea's lot as a debtor, the news agency says: The Chon Tu-hwan "regime," with no capacity of paying the debts, is throwing South Korea deeper into a bottomless bog of financial crisis. This crisis finds manifestation in the fact that unemployment is growing, the peasants and small enterprises are getting impoverished and the living of the people is deteriorating.

PAPER DENOUNCES CHON LETTER TO DJP ON ELECTIONS

SK261028 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1015 GMT 26 Jan 85

[Text] Pyongyang January 26 (KCNA) -- NODONG SINMUN today raps at the South Korean puppets for their madcap campaign intended to rake up the votes for the "Democratic Justice Party" in the upcoming "elections" at any cost.

The signed commentary notes: Traitor Chon Tu-hwan, in his "personal letter" to the "DJP" members on January 23, babbled that the party's immediate task is to gain an overwhelming support in the forthcoming "National Assembly elections." The puppet minister of interior, the "minister of justice" and the "chairman of the Central Election Management Committee" issued press statements on the same day in which they twaddled about the "fair election" and "democratic election" and blustered that any act obstructing them would be "strictly dealt with".

Their circulation of "personal letter" and "statements" all at once following the announcement of the date of the "elections" is nothing but a clumsy popularity-hunting tactic to rake up "votes for the Democratic Justice Party" by suppressing the anti "DJP" forces and luring people with hollow "commitments". "Adaptation of democracy" and "building of a democratic welfare state" on the lips of the Chon Tu-hwan group are no more than empty "commitments" and a deceptive word jugglery to serve a propaganda purpose.

South Korea is stricken with a horrible atmosphere under the "emergency alert order".

Having installed such suppressive machines as the "Corps Against Election Law Violators" and "the Corps To Supervise Elections", the puppet police and prosecutors are cracking down upon opposition candidates and dissidents on charges of "unlawful acts" and kicking up a wholesale arrest of patriotic students and people in every place under the name of "checking election law violation".

No matter how wild the puppet clique may run in their campaign to mislead public opinion and deceive people, they cannot convince the South Korean people who are well aware of their hypocritical slogans. The South Korean people in all walks of life are opposing and rejecting the "National Assembly elections" projected by the Chon Tu-hwan group and will not recognize the fraudulent "elections".

SOUTH KOREANS REJECT NATIONAL ASSEMBLY ELECTIONS

SK291543 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1520 GMT 29 Jan 85

[Text] Pyongyang January 29 (KCNA) -- The "National Assembly elections" projected by the Chon Tu-hwan military fascist clique in February are resolutely rejected by the South Korean people of all strata. The South Korean students who have always fought undauntedly in the van of the anti-fascist struggle for democracy are demonstrating their fighting spirit in the struggle against the "elections", too.

What draws attention in the South Korean students' struggle against the "elections" is that they formed their organisation to carry on their activities. Hundreds of students of Seoul and Yonsei Universities formed on December last year the "National Joint Committee of Students for Measures Against the Elections" in order to expand the anti-"election" struggle throughout South Korea. Noting that the coming "election" farce is aimed at perpetuating the military dictatorial "regime", they called upon all students to struggle against the dictatorship and the "Democratic Justice Party" in solidarity with all the democratic forces.

The students also decided to launch a "campaign to collect one million signatures" in demand of the withdrawal of the "National Assembly elections" while directing the spearhead of their struggle against the "Democratic Justice Party", a private political party of the traitor Chon Tu-hwan.

South Korean figures of all segments are also standing opposed to the fraudulent "elections" for long-term office of the military fascist dictator.

Kim Yong-sam, president of the defunct, New Democratic Party, in his news conference on January 5, said that the Chon Tu-hwan group schemes to hold "elections" in winter in an attempt to rig up "election" results with greater easiness. He said he would reject the "elections" for faking up the "votes of victory" and fight to the last against the present dictatorial "regime".

Ham Sok-hon, a believer, and Song Kon-ho, director of the Editorial Department of TONGA ILBO, and 20 other figures organised a "Consultative Council of Opposition Figures" on January 7, called for waging an extensive struggle for democracy in concert with all the democratic forces and demanded the puppet authorities to explain concretely how to change "power".

The opposition parties of South Korea are also condemning the puppets' fraudulent "elections". A "national assemblyman" surnamed Kim belonging to the "Democratic Korea Party", an opposition party of South Korea, said at a meeting. Although the Chon Tu-hwan group is paying lip-service to fair elections, it has neither capacity nor intention to realize democracy. The "election law" must be revised as the "present election system is contrary to the principle of democracy". The president of the national party said: "The ruling party is loud-mouthed about fair elections. But, upon turning its back, it is engaged in rigging up elections using power and money."

KCNA EXPOSES INTENSIFIED SUPPRESSION IN SOUTH

SK281544 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1520 GMT 28 Jan 85

[Text] Pyongyang January 28 (KCNA) -- The military fascist clique, at a "national meeting of chief prosecutors" on January 25, hatched a plot to intensify suppression, according to a report from Seoul.

Deploring that there are "movements denying the election itself", the puppets ordered their prosecution bodies to "concentrate their efforts on controlling" all actions obstructive to the "elections", arrest the "election law violators" and to punish them.

This reveals their criminal attempt to put down and stifle the struggle of students and figures of all strata against the "elections" fraud.

Earlier on January 24, the puppet Seoul police bureau drove out the police to "control" those who "damage" "announcement of the election date" and "candidate" placards and so on posted on walls.

SOUTH STUDENTS ARRESTED FOR ELECTIONS PROTEST

SK300815 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0811 GMT 30 Jan 85

[Text] Pyongyang January 30 (KCNA) -- The Chon Tu-hwan military fascist clique on January 27 arrested six students of Seoul University who had planned to stage a demonstration against the "elections" after holding "a fact-finding report meeting on the 'elections'" on the campus, according to reports.

Earlier, on January 24, they walked off Cho Man-yong, a student of Seoul University, who was distributing handbills against the puppet national assembly "elections" to students and their parents at the campus gate and two students of Sungmyong Women's University including Han Un-kyong who were carrying leaflets titled "Oppose 'Elections'".

On the same day, the fascist clique arrested Song Kuk-song and Sin Sung-chae, students of Songgyungwan University, on charges of violation of the "election law". They referred to "summary trials" Han Sang-ho, member of the Tanguk University Committee for the Promotion of Democracy, and Yi Song-chu, a student of Konguk University, and others for their anti-fascist activities and held in custody Kim Haeng-chun, former vice-chairman of the Hanyang University Committee for the Promotion of Democracy, by invoking a fascist law.

MORE ANTIELECTION DEMONSTRATIONS HELD IN SOUTH

SK300434 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0344 GMT 30 Jan 85

[Text] Pyongyang January 30 (KCNA) -- More than 300 students of Seoul University on January 25 waged a demonstration shouting slogans denouncing the "Democratic Justice Party", a private political party of the traitor Chon Tu-hwan, according to the South Korean paper TONGA ILBO. They smashed windows of the Yongdungpo "district party" building of the "Democratic Justice Party" by pelting stones at them and then marched with a streamer. Whole packs of puppet police fell upon them in a mad crackdown. But the students fought unyieldingly, scattering leaflets.

That day over 400 students of Ewha Women's University held a campus meeting and read a declaration against the puppet national assembly "elections". On the same day students of the university distributed copies of a handbill in the name of the "Ewha Women's University Committee for Democratic Elections". Written there were the words: "We oppose the forthcoming 'elections' which do not guarantee conditions for democratic elections." Upwards of 150 students of Songgyungwan University staged a demonstration against the criminal "elections" on the campus that day. Meanwhile, students in Kunsan, North Cholla Province, scattered leaflets rejecting the "elections".

O CHIN-U SEES OFF EQUATORIAL GUINEAN GROUP

SK292347 Pyongyang KCNA in English 2330 GMT 29 Jan 85

[Text] Pyongyang January 30 (KCNA) -- The military delegation of the Republic of Equatorial Guinea headed by Fructuoso Mba Onana Nchama, deputy prime minister and minister of defence, state security and political affairs of Equatorial Guinea, left Tuesday by air after paying an official goodwill visit to Korea.

It was seen off at the airport by Comrade O Chin-u, member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and minister of People's Armed Force; Lt. General Kim Il-chol; Maj. Generals Chon Chin-su and Yi Hong-sun; and other generals and officers of the Korean People's Army. Also present at the airport were military attaches of various embassies in Pyongyang.

KIM IL-SONG SENDS GREETINGS TO INDIAN PRESIDENT

SK251559 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1527 GMT 25 Jan 85

[Text] Pyongyang January 25 (KCNA) -- President Kim Il-song sent a message of greetings to Giani Zail Singh, president of the Republic of India, on January 25. The message reads:

I extend my warm congratulations to Your Excellency, your government and people on behalf of the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, the Korean people and on my behalf on the occasion of the 35th birthday of the Republic of India. Since the proclamation of the republic the Indian people have made a great progress in their efforts for the country's independent development and the creation of a new life. I take this opportunity to sincerely wish Your Excellency and your people greater successes in the work to strengthen the unity and cohesion of the whole country and achieve the country's prosperity, expressing my conviction that the friendship and cooperation between our two countries will further expand and develop in conformity with the idea of independence, non-alignment and peace.

MINISTER REITERATES DESIRE FOR TALKS WITH NORTH

SK301133 Seoul Domestic Service in Korean 1000 GMT 30 Jan 85

[Text] Son Chae-sik, minister of the National Unification Board, said today that although North Korea has postponed the scheduled North-South economic talks and the Red Cross talks on the pretext of our side's annual "Team Spirit" exercise, our side is fully prepared to hold the two talks at any time and called on North Korea to respond to national aspirations by coming to the talks at an early date instead of making excuses.

Speaking at a seminar on the 3d anniversary of the publication of the policy of unification based on national harmony and democratic principles this morning at the North-South Dialogue Secretariat Building, Samchong-dong, Seoul, Minister Son Chae-sik said that although North Korea has postponed the North-South talks, he believes that North Korea will come back to talks at an early date and that we are doing everything possible for the North-South talks.

Some 250 people, including scholars, religious figures, and members of organizations dealing with unification affairs, participated in the seminar. Professor Yun Kun-sik of Songgyungwan University and Professor Kim Hak-chun of Seoul National University spoke on the themes of change in North Korea's situation and change in the international situation, which was followed by debate.

ACTION ON STUDENT ELECTION LAW VIOLATION ADVISED

SK300116 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 30 Jan 85 p 8

[Text] Minister of Education Kwon I-hyok yesterday called on universities and colleges to take disciplinary action against students who participate in electioneering.

In a meeting of student affairs deans, Kwon said: "Electioneering by students or any other activity harming the election atmosphere should be severely dealt with in strict accordance with school regulations." The meeting was held in Onyang, Chungchongnam-do.

Minister Kwon noted that some students have been waging illegal political activities in disregard of school regulations. He also pointed out that some students have distributed leaflets opposing the upcoming National Assembly election and that students at some schools are planning to hold rallies to oppose the election.

"The law allows only registered campaigners to engage in electioneering. Students are not permitted to conduct political activities under school regulations. If students take part in election campaigning this is tantamount to violating the law and denying their status as students," Kwon said. The government will cope more strongly with campus disturbances from the coming spring semester, Kwon added.

"From now on, any illegal student activities on campus should be subject to harsh punishment in order to establish sound campus order," said Kwon.

He asked the student affairs deans not to tolerate the destruction of school facilities, the seizure of libraries or lecture halls, the throwing of gasoline bombs or any other violent acts.

CANDIDATES URGED TO REVISE CAMPAIGN POSTERS

SK300119 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 30 Jan 85 p 1

[Text] Some opposition candidates running in the February 12 National Assembly election charged yesterday that local Election Management Committees proposed that some wording on their draft campaign posters be eliminated because the phrases are "radical or illegal." The opposition parties lodged protests with the Central Election Management Committee (CEMC).

Asked about the allegation, a spokesman for the CEMC said that none of the local Election Management Committees have so far made any decision to delete words from posters. "Working-level officials are known to have expressed their personal views on raising questions about some of the wording on the draft campaign posters. They made demands for deletions," he said.

The spokesman said that it will be up to local Election Management Committees to decide whether wording on candidates' campaign posters is against law. "There will be no deletions if poster phrase are not in violation of law," he added. He said the panels will complete the two-day work of screening contents of submitted posters today.

On Monday, the main opposition Democratic Korea Party received reports from some of its candidates that the election management panels in their areas demanded the deletion of such phrases as "Let's eliminate politics of suppression" and "Let's realize the restoration of democracy" from their draft posters submitted to the panels for approval, a party spokesman said. "The committees refused to accept the draft campaign posters," the spokesman said in a statement.

The minor opposition Korea National Party (KNP) made a similar allegation. The panel in an electoral district in Taegu demanded the elimination of a phrase, "Let's drive out government-controlled politics," from the poster drafted by Rep. Yi Man-sop, it said. Yi, a KNP vice president, is running in the city's Chung-Sogu district on the party's ticket for reelection.

The KNP described such demands by election management offices as "political suppression" and "interference in campaign activities." It demanded that election management panels stop such interference.

The New Korea Democratic Party (NKDP) said that election management panels are refusing to screen draft election posters of some of its candidates on the ground that their posters contained such words as "dictatorship."

Kim Tae-yong, a NKDP candidate, charged that the panel in his district asked for eliminating his phrase reading, "I will take the lead in restoring democracy along with Kim Yong-sam and Kim Tae-chung." The two Kims are still banned from politics along with 13 other persons. Kim Tae-chung is staying in the United States.

Another NKDP candidate running in a district in Chungchongnam-do insisted that the district's committee has barred him from the use of the name of the Council of the Promotion of Democracy (CPD) in his draft campaign poster. The council is cochaired by Kim Yong-sam. Kim Tae-chung is adviser to the organization. The candidate, Pak Hui-pu, started a hunger strike in protest, party sources said. The NKDP has said that the CPD is not an illegal body, although it has not been formally registered.

FRANCE GRANTS HIGHER RADIO, TV EXPORT QUOTAS

SK300636 Seoul YONHAP in English 0611 GMT 30 Jan 85

[Text] Paris, Jan. 30 (YONHAP) -- France has granted South Korea "considerably" higher export quotas for radio and television sets sales here apparently with the hope of increasing trade between the two countries. The quotas, made public in the Jan. 25 issue of France's official gazette say that South Korea can export as many as 440,000 radios and 20,000 TV's to the European country in 1985. The new totals represent an increase of 20 percent and 25 percent, respectively, from 1984. Last year, South Korea was allowed sales of 367,000 radios and 16,000 TV's in France. The quotas for Japanese radio and TV sets, however, were frozen at the same level as 1984's -- 390,000 radios and 84,000 TV's. Hong Kong was granted an export of 248,000 radio sets this year, up 20 percent from 1984. The quota for other South Korean merchandise, including toys and umbrellas, meanwhile, increased by 10 percent from 5 million francs worth in 1984 to 5.5 million francs worth in 1985.

Observers said that the "realatively" big increases in the quotas for South Korea might indicate the Paris government's wish to improve Seoul-Paris relations, which became strained last December when France upgraded the status of a North Korean Mission in Paris to that of general delegation.

The French action, taken on Dec. 11, 1984, promptly evoked repugnance in Seoul. The South Korean ambassador to Paris was temporarily recalled, and a French cabinet minister's scheduled visit to Seoul was postponed. France's Minister for Industrial Redeployment and External Commerce Edith Cresson told reporters earlier this month that she hopes to visit South Korea in March. Her trip had been scheduled for January. Despite criticism by French media that the elevation of the North Korean Mission meant an approval of Pyongyang's "quasi-diplomatic" status in Paris, the French Government has insisted that the move was a mere change of name and that existing Seoul-Paris relations will not be altered.

FISHERY MINISTER DISCUSSES NEW YEAR POLICY

SK300227 Seoul YONHAP in English 0217 GMT 30 Jan 85

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 30 (OANA-YONHAP) -- The South Korean Government has decided to strengthen the marketing organizations of the Agriculture and Fisheries Ministry and three related cooperative federations in order to improve product marketing in related industries. Agriculture and Fisheries Minister Pak Chong-mun said on KBS-TV Tuesday that the ministry will install a marketing bureau this year. The three cooperative federations are already working on expansion of marketing systems. The overall realignment of marketing organizations is aimed at stabilizing the prices of farm and fisheries products through farmer and fisherman support for independent production as well as the cooperative federations' sales activities. The ministry will include garlic and onions among items subject to prior marketing notice to bring about the balanced production of those farm products, whose prices have been fluctuating greatly according to production.

Also, to prop up sagging domestic cattle prices, the government will not import any cattle this year and will forbid the sale of already imported beef until the prices recover. Cattle import came up to 25,000 head in 1981, but swelled to 30,000 head in 1982 and further, to 74,000 head, in 1983. Last year, Korea bought only 13,000 head of cattle from abroad. Pak also said that the government is planning to fund about 100 subsidiary projects across the nation this year to give farmers and fisherman more opportunities to earn supplementary income.

REPORTAGE ON RECENT THAI MILITARY OPERATIONS

BK291334 Phnom Penh SPK in English 1114 GMT 29 Jan 85

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK January 29 -- In the week ended on January 24 Thailand four times sent L-19 and OV-10 aircraft to reconnoitre northern Anlung Veng, O Bok, Lake Ampil and Sok Sann.

Thai vessels made 25 incursions into areas around the Islands of Kaoh Kong and Kaoh Tang, from 8 to 26 miles inside Kampuchean waters.

Thailand's artillery repeatedly shelled populated areas along the Kampuchean-Thai border, particularly Yeang Dangcum, western Toek Sap, southern Viem Ta, around Smat Deng, Hills 581 and 547. Its infantry, artillery and tanks have been deployed close to the Kampuchean border. The Khmer reactionaries from Thailand also made over 100 shellings of and encroachments upon Kampuchean territory, causing great losses in lives and property to the population.

In the same period, the People's Revolutionary Armed Forces of Kampuchea, assisted by the Vietnamese Volunteer Army, resolutely punished the Khmer reactionaries, aided and abetted by the Thai authorities, putting out of action 271 enemy troops and seizing 162 guns and other war materials.

DEFENSE MINISTRY DELEGATION VISITS SRV TROOPS

BK260401 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1200 GMT 25 Jan 85

[Text] To express gratitude to the Vietnamese volunteer troops fulfilling proletarian internationalist duty in the land of Angkor and to join them in celebrating the fraternal Vietnamese people's traditional New Year, a delegation of the Defense Ministry recently visited Vietnamese volunteer troops carrying out their priceless internationalist obligation in Siem Reap-Oddar Meanchey Province. Included in the delegation were Comrade Chieng Am, deputy chief of the General Political Department representing the Defense Ministry; Comrade Prum Thav, commander of the 4th Military Region; Comrade Ham Kin, deputy commander of the 4th Military Region; and other comrades representing various committees and offices of the 4th Military Region.

On this cordial occasion, Comrade Chieng Am, representing the Defense Ministry, expressed deep thanks to the Vietnamese volunteer soldiers for sacrificing their flesh and blood in the revolutionary cause of Cambodia and for the happiness and security of the Cambodian people. He particularly praised them for the brilliant military successes of the KPRAF, which, in close cooperation with the Vietnamese volunteer troops, had attacked and destroyed the major camps of the enemy of all stripes along the Cambodian-Thai border. He extended New Year's greetings to the Vietnamese volunteer troops, wishing them brilliant new successes.

On the same occasion, a representative of the Vietnamese volunteer troops fulfilling duty in the land of Angkor expressed sincere thanks to the Defense Ministry for sparing its precious time to visit his men. He also voiced determination always to strengthen the bonds of militant solidarity between the PRK and Vietnamese Armies and to stand shoulder-to-shoulder with the PRK revolutionary forces in destroying the enemy of all stripes in defense and construction of the Angkor fatherland, building it step by step toward socialism. The visit concluded in an atmosphere of joy, cordiality, and intimacy.

CHEA SOTH ADDRESSES INDIAN NATIONAL DAY MEETING

BK260655 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 0430 GMT 26 Jan 85

[Text] A meeting was solemnly organized by the KUFNCD National Council at the Bassac Riverfront Theater Hall at 0800 on 26 January to mark the 35th anniversary of the proclamation of the Indian Republic. Present on the occasion were, among others, Comrade Hun Sen, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau, chairman of the Council of Ministers, and minister of foreign affairs; Comrade Chea Soth, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers, and minister of planning; Comrade Mat Ly, member of the party Central Committee, vice chairman of the National Assembly, and chairman of the Cambodian Federation of Trade Unions; Comrade Mrs Men Sam-an, member of the party Central Committee and chairman of the Central Propaganda and Education Commission; Comrade Mrs Mean Sam-an, alternate member of the party Central Committee and chairman of the Cambodian Revolutionary Women's Association; Comrade Chan Ven, secretary general of the Council of State and chairman of the Cambodia-Vietnam Friendship Association; Comrade Men Chhan, member of the Council of State and vice chairman of the KUFNCD National Council; and Comrade Keo Chanda, secretary of the party committee and chairman of the people's revolutionary committee of Phnom Penh Municipality. Also present were leaders of state institutions, offices, departments, mass organizations, workers, Buddhist clergy, and ethnic groups. Ambassadors and counselors of embassies of friendly countries accredited to Cambodia were also on hand.

Speaking to the meeting, Comrade Chea Soth said that the Cambodian people are extremely happy to join in the celebration of the 35th anniversary of the proclamation of the Republic of India, a historic day of the Indian people's struggle. He highly appreciated the democratic construction of the sociopolitical foundations and the fact that the planned economic development has become a major goal of the Indian Government and people. He also stressed that on the international stage, India has pursued a policy of nonalignment and peaceful coexistence in order to help consolidate world peace. He went on to say that the Republic of India has paid keen attention to Southeast Asia and its role in the international arena, especially in the Nonaligned Movement, and has had a positive influence on the situation in Asia and the world.

In reply, Dharamvir Malik expressed deep thanks to the PRK party, government, mass organizations, and people for organizing the meeting to mark the proclamation of the Indian Republic, thus contributing to the development and consolidation of the bonds of solidarity between the Republic of India and the PRK. He stressed that India has maintained a policy of friendship with all countries, particularly its neighbors. He expressed hope that relations between Indochina and ASEAN would improve.

FORESTRY COOPERATION TALKS HELD WITH USSR

BK241218 Vientiane KPL in English 0920 GMT 24 Jan 85

[Text] Vientiane, January 24 (OANA-KPL) -- The delegations of Laos and the USSR Sub-commissions for Forestry Cooperation held here yesterday talks on short- and long-term cooperation on forestry work between Laos and the USSR.

The Lao side was headed by Soulima Bounleut, vice-chairman of the State Planning Committee, and the USSR side was headed by Dmitriy Vasilyevich [name as received], deputy-minister of forestry. The USSR delegation arrived here on January 22 and was met at the airport by Soulima Bounleut.

KAYSONE PHOMVIHAN MEETS CPSU MAGAZINE DELEGATION

BK231057 Vientiane KPL in English 0900 GMT 23 Jan 85

[Text] Vientiane, Jan 23 (OANA-KPL) -- General Secretary of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee and chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Lao PDR Kaysone Phomvihane received here yesterday Y.L. Molchanov, member of the Editorial Board of the KOMMUNIST magazine of the CPSU CC.

Issues highlighted in the discussion were dealt with [as received] domestic and regional situation, including the Lao PDR's foreign policy. The general secretary hailed the Soviet of the KOMMUNIST magazine's delegation to the Lao PDR. [sentence as received] V.F. Sobchenko, Soviet ambassador to Laos, was also on hand.

PHOUMI VONGVICHIT RECEIVES FRENCH VISITOR

BK261112 Vientiane KPL in English 0918 GMT 26 Jan 85

[Text] Vientiane, January 26 (OANA-KPL) -- Phoumi Vongvichit, Political Bureau member, vice-chairman of the Council of Ministers received here yesterday the head of the linguistic and historical section of the National Council for Scientific Research, Prof. Pierre Bernard Lafont who is on a visit here.

During the warm and cordial meeting, Vice-Chairman Phoumi Vongvichit expressed his thanks for France's interest on the reality in Laos. The vice-chairman also informed the French guest about the regional situation especially the situation on the Lao-Thai border.

SOUPHANOUVONG RECEIVES DEPARTING BELGIAN ENVOY

BK251029 Vientiane KPL in English 0907 GMT 25 Jan 85

[Text] Vientiane, January 25 (OANA-KPL) -- Souphanouvong, president of the republic and of the People's Supreme Assembly, received here on Jan 23 the Belgian ambassador to Laos, Pierre Brancart, who is ending his diplomatic mission here.

During the warm and cordial talk, President Souphanouvong highly appraised Ambassador Pierre Brancart's active contribution to the enhancement of Lao-Belgian friendly relations during his four-year mission here. President Souphanouvong also wished the ambassador much success in his future work.

FOREIGN MINISTRY ISSUES WHITE BOOK ON LAOS

First Installment

BK271221 Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in Thai 1000 GMT 14 Jan 85

[First installment of "Special Report": "Evolution of Thai-Lao Relations"]

[Text] The Foreign Ministry has published a document, entitled: "Evolution of Thai-Lao Relations" for distribution to the mass media to show the close relations between the two countries. The document comprises information regarding political, economic, trade, social, cultural, relations, and cooperation and assistance in various areas between Thailand and Laos both at present and in the past to prove the sincerity and significance the Thai Government and people have always reserved for Laos.

Regarding the history of the Thai-Lao peoples, the document says:

The ties between the Thai and Lao peoples are so close that one may say they are inseparable. The two peoples share the same roots in race, religion, beliefs, customs, culture and social changes. They also inhabit the same area in the Southeast Asian region. They both received cultural, religious and language influences from the Indian Subcontinent.

As far as their race is concerned, the Thai and Lao peoples are said to have the same ancestors -- the Thai or Tai people. As a result, the Thai and Lao peoples' basic ways of living nowadays are very similar. For example, they both grow and consume rice, and there are customs concerning rice growing and harvesting that are reflected in their songs and dances. In addition, there exists a custom known as Hit Sipsong which induces people to go to monasteries and take part in religious functions to make them understand and appreciate Buddhist principles. The Thai and Lao peoples also observe the principles called Khong Sipsi, which are practical guidelines for the laymen in their relationships with their families and the Buddhist religion. At a higher level, these can also serve as guidelines to be translated into practical application by those in government.

The general characters of the two peoples are also very much alike. They possess polite and gentle manners. They respect their elders. They are generous and always care about others' feelings. In addition, there exist several similar customs and practices between the Thai and Lao peoples such as the presentation of robes to the monks known as Thot Krathin, the boat races towards the end of Lent, and so forth.

Buddhism is the national religion in both Thailand and Laos. The Lao people are as deeply devoted to Buddhism as are the Thai people. In both countries, one will find in almost every town and city monasteries that are the gathering points for religious, social and cultural activities. The people have a high respect for the monks and value the latter's guidance and wisdom. In 1975, the Thai Government sent a number of well-educated and highly qualified monks to advise the Lao Government, as requested by the latter, on the teachings of the Lord Buddha, the promotion of Buddhism and the teaching of Buddhism in schools.

With regard to the spoken languages in Thailand and in Laos, they have in their origin dating back to the Thai language of the past. Both peoples are able to communicate quite easily through their spoken languages in spite of the fact that they went through a different evolution. The spoken tongues of the two countries do register some variations from one area to another, and also from influences of foreign languages. Even nowadays, the Thai and the Lao peoples are able to communicate without having to have recourse to interpreters.

However, the longstanding proximity and closeness of the two people in the past inevitably resulted both in cooperation as well as in conflict, at intervals, between the Thai and the Lao peoples, and also between the Thai and Lao peoples on the one hand, and other races such as the Vietnamese, the Chinese, the Burmese, the Mon and the Khmer, on the other. On some occasions, the Thai and Lao peoples even joint hands with outsiders to fight against their own peers. This is a natural phenomenon for any human society anywhere in the world. The coming together of different racial groups into alliances is only to meet the requirements of certain situations, to survive, to fight against stronger forces, or to resist the threat from those who are bent on domination. But these alliances can only be temporary. Therefore, one can find oneself being an ally one day, an enemy the next, depending upon time and circumstances. An example of Thai-Lao cooperation may be cited here. In 1945 a Lao king who ruled over Lan Xang joined with a Thai king to successfully beat off the Burmese. To mark their cooperation, the two kings jointly constructed a chedi name Phra That Si Song Rak now in Dan Sai District, Leoi Province.

A thorough and serious study of history will reveal also that, in those days, there was no such notion as that of a nation state, or of clearly defined boundaries of states as is common today. Neither was there any obsession with the concept of nationalism as we know it today. The administrative pattern in the Southeast Asian region assumed the form of a large number of small self-governed realms, each realm being composed of many cities ruled by princes and lords. The relationships among the various realms were neither fixed nor rigid. The dependency of a small realm upon another, or their mutual respect or lack of it, depended on many factors, such as the situation existing at the time, acceptance of each other, alliance by marriage, perception of mutual benefits, and so on. In this kind of environment, the attempts and ability to unite realms and peoples of the same race into a nation or kingdom by various means such as marriage, military strength, as well as the assessment of internal weakness, if any, of other realms or peoples, inevitably would affect other realms and peoples. This is why the Thai and Lao peoples were unable to unite into one single kingdom. This was demonstrated in the various periods of their history. In the 17th and 18th centuries, for example, while the Burmese and the Vietnamese had their own kingdoms and the Malays had already begun to group together, the Thai and Lao peoples still had several separate realms such as Ayutthaya, Chiang Mai, Champassak, Vientiane, Luang Prabang, Yonok Nakon, Xishuangbanna, to name a few. By the latter part of the 18th century, alliances and conflicts in Southeast Asia had begun to change from those between realms and feudal domains to those between various groups with a clearer sense of nationality. Had the expansion of influence and power of the Western colonial powers not entered the scene, it is quite possible that the aforementioned trend would have continued for a long time.

In the 19th century, wars between the various nationalities in the region became wars of resistance against the spreading influence of and domination by Western powers. The struggle by the Thai people against the latter assumed the same form. This period lasted almost 100 years. Eventually, the Thais were forced to sign unequal treaties with the Western power, thereby losing sovereignty over parts of their own territory. The Thai people on many occasions, were in situations in which they had little or no choice. But on some occasions, they were able to take up arms and to fight for their survival. During the colony-hunting era, Thailand had to be prepared at all times to defend herself against Western incursions, while constantly maintaining a policy of nonaggression. It can therefore be said that Thailand stood alone to confront the various colonialist powers during that period.

The domination of one nation by another in the form of colonialism prompted the emergence of the concept of and the ideology relating to statehood and the structure of society as well as strong feelings of nationalism. This happened simultaneously worldwide.

The conflicts among the Western powers themselves and the rapid development of Japan up until the outbreak of World War II undermined the strength of the colonialist powers considerably. In addition, the cries for independence and freedom emanating from those under colonialist domination grew louder, thus contributing to the changes that occurred in the international political scene.

Second Installment

BK271244 Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in Thai 1000 GMT 16 Jan 85

[Second installment of "special report": "Evolution of Thai-Lao Relations"]

[Text] Situation in Laos After World War II

After the Second World War, Prince Phetsalat and his associates comprising Prince Souvanna Phouma and Prince Souphanouvong undertook to mount a joint struggle against the French to regain independence for Laos. They did so by setting up a group called the Free Laos Movement in 1945, which later became known as the Free Lao Government. In 1946, after the Free Lao Government was defeated by the French Army which supported King Sisavangvong, the group took refuge and sought political asylum in Thailand. The Thai Government granted them asylum and extended them appropriate accommodations.

In 1949, negotiations on Laos' independence between Laos and France were held. The Free Laos Movement faced internal divisions that led to the formation of two groups. The first group was led by Prince Souvanna Phouma, who accepted France's proposal that Laos should be self-governed but should remain an overseas state within the French federation, at least for a time. The prince thus returned to Laos. Prince Souphanouvong, who led the second group, wanted full independence from France immediately and made known his determination to continue his struggle against France and therefore did not return to Laos but, went instead to China and Vietnam. As for Prince Phetsalat, he remained in Thailand under political asylum.

The resistance against France went on in Laos until 1954. In that year, several powers called for the first round of negotiations on cease-fire and truce in Geneva. The Pathet Lao, led by Prince Souphanouvong, remained in Phong Saly and Sam Neua. However, back in Vientiane, a Lao cabinet was formed under Katai Sasolit's premiership.

The Thai Government, which always pursued a policy to foster good relationships and cooperation with Thailand's neighbours, issued a cabinet declaration on the occasion of the formation of the government in Laos. This declaration stated that since Laos had to shoulder the difficult and important task of national development after the granting of independence, all government officials and people of Thailand were urged to express their friendship to Laos by extending assistance to Laos in order to enhance the declared government's policy.

In 1959, the situation in Laos became worse because, as the conservative government of Laos found out, the Pathet Lao was engaged in clandestine activities to spread communist influence and was also ferrying weapons from North Vietnam into Laos. Moreover, the Lao Government had evidence that North Vietnam provided assistance to the Pathet Lao to stir up rebellions in Phong Saly and Sam Neua. The concern expressed by Premier Phoui Sananikon was so great that he appealed to the secretary general of the United Nations for observers to be dispatched to Laos in order to inspect the situation and be acquainted with the evidence which clearly showed that North Vietnam was behind all the rebellions and clandestine movements. The situation made the Lao conservative government more suspicious of the Pathet Lao, which is also known as the Neo Lao Hak Sat. Therefore, in 1959 Prince Souphanouvong and his associates were taken into custody. However, in May 1960, the prince and his men escaped from prison and went to North Vietnam in order to pull together their resistance forces once again.

On 9 August 1960, Captain Kong Le staged a coup d'etat toppling the government and asked Prince Souvanna Phouma to head a new cabinet. However, Prince Boun Oum Na Champassak and General Phoumi Nosavan who were dissatisfied and refused to cooperate, set up an anti-coup group committee with their headquarters in Savannakhet. The committee was later renamed the Revolutionary Committee with Prince Boun Oum its leader. The committee pronounced its refusal to recognize the legitimacy of Prince Souvanna Phouma's government. Thus, Laos was divided into three clearly different groups, namely the conservative or rightist group under Prince Boun Oum and Gen Phoumi, the neutralist group under Prince Souvanna Phouma, and the progressive or leftist group under Prince Souphanouvong.

The disputes among the three groups dragged on and led to more violence in the country's civil war. The various countries concerned with the situation in Laos therefore attempted to bring about a cease-fire among the fighting groups. Several rounds of negotiation were held one after another. The last rounds also included political negotiations aimed at setting up a coalition government. Eventually, an agreement to have a cease-fire was reached and sealed in Zurich, Switzerland, in June 1961, and general principles accepted. In accordance with the Geneva agreements, a coalition government was formed on 12 June. The country's neutrality was then proclaimed.

After these second Geneva agreements, a coalition government was formed, with Prince Souphanouvong, leader of the Neo Lao Hak Sart and Gen Phoumi Nosavan, leader of the rightists, joining the government of Prince Souvanna Phouma, leader of the neutralists. However, after a short while disputes flared up again among the three factions, which were unable to cooperate in a fruitful manner. The International Commission for Supervision and Control, established by virtue of the 1954 Geneva agreements, tried with no success to alleviate the situation. Its failure stemmed from the lack of cooperation from the Vietnamese-backed Pathet Lao group. Moreover, each faction sought support from the outside. In this particular period, France attempted to reassert its influence but without much success. Later, a coup was staged by the conservative group on 19 April 1964, but failed mainly because the countries signatory to the Geneva agreements of 1962 were reluctant to see the fall of the temporary national coalition government under Prince Souvanna Phouma. Thailand, however, had no involvement in this process because it considered that such an action would constitute interference in Lao internal affairs.

The situation worsened when a split developed within the conservative faction for reasons none other than personal interests. This led to a coup on 31 January 1965. The coup was backed by Gen Phoumi, who eventually sought refuge in Thailand. The government of Prince Souvanna Phouma requested Thailand to ensure that Gen Phoumi and his followers would not be allowed to pose any further threat to the stability of the coalition government of Laos. Thailand responded to the Lao request by having Gen Phoumi moved to Songkhla, southern Thailand, in September 1965.

From 1965 on, Prince Souvanna Phouma devoted his efforts in entertaining more contacts with the international community in order to attract support from other powers to help maintain peace and neutrality in his country. Finally, in October 1972, negotiations took place between the Lao Government led by Prince Souvanna Phouma and the Pathet Lao faction led by Prince Souphanouvong. This led to the signing of an agreement to end the civil war in Laos on 21 February 1973 called the Agreement on the Revival of Peace and National Reconciliation in Laos.

The Lao Government had to accept the terms and conditions imposed by the Pathet Lao because of its stronger position. The Pathet Lao's strength was made possible by the assistance from the North Vietnamese troops in Laos. Moreover, the Pathet Lao's activities were carried out in harmony with the North Vietnamese activities related to the aggression being perpetrated against South Vietnam.

Therefore, with the signing of the Vietnamese peace agreement in January 1973, the Vientiane government again had to accept the conditions imposed by the Pathet Lao in the peace negotiations and the establishment of the coalition government. This time, the National Political Coalition Council was set up and chaired by Prince Souphanouvong, thus enabling the Pathet Lao to acquire wider influence in government.

In the beginning of 1974, the Pathet Lao instigated Lao students to form a protest march to oust rightist senior officers. On 13 April 1975, his majesty the king of Laos declared the parliament dissolved. It then became clear to many senior officers that the communist danger had engulfed their country and therefore they decided to seek safety abroad. Eventually, Laos declared the establishment of a new socialist regime and officially renamed the country the Lao People's Democratic Republic on 2 December 1975. It terminated this phase of conflicts and civil war which lasted for over 30 years. Laos thus came under a communist regime and was granted political and economic assistance and aid mainly from communist East European bloc countries and Vietnam.

The Thai Government, however, gave its recognition to the new regime in Laos. The Thai Government considered that such political change was strictly the result of internal changes and had no policy of intervening in the internal affairs of other countries. Thailand and the Thai people desire to live in peace and be friendly with neighbouring countries. Differences in political ideologies are not considered an impediment to the maintenance of good relations with other countries, especially with such a neighbor as Laos with which it has always enjoyed close and intimate contacts.

The political changes in Laos since 1975 have not resulted in the termination of Thai-Lao relations. The leadership of both countries have in fact tried to strengthen these relations even further. This is evident from the regular exchange of visits by prominent personalities. For instance, a Thai delegation led by Phichai Rattakun, former minister for foreign affairs, paid a visit to Laos at the invitation of Phoun Sipaseut, deputy prime minister and foreign minister of Laos, between 31 July and 3 August 1976. The joint communique issued on that occasion can be considered as an endorsement for the revival of close and intimate Thai-Lao relations.

Apart from this, during the prime ministership of General Kriangsak Chamanan, both governments exchanged a number of visits by their respective delegations. For instance, between 4-6 January 1979, Gen Kriangsak Chamanan led a Thai delegation to Laos and paid a courtesy call on Prince Souphanouvong and on Prime Minister Kaysone Phomvihan. The Lao Government reciprocated the visit by dispatching a delegation led by Prime Minister Kaysone Phomvihan to Bangkok during the course of which an audience with his majesty the king was granted and a courtesy call was made on Gen Kriangsak. Joint communiqués were issued following both visits, and these led to the formation of the joint Thai-Lao Cooperation Committees both at the national and local levels. These committees were assigned the task of formulating appropriate measures and directives for the promotion of border security, as well as for cooperation in other aspects as specified in joint communiqués and other agreements between the two countries, and for solving specific border problems that could arise from time to time. The responsibility of the committee at the local level is to coordinate with the committee at the national level in order to facilitate efficient and prompt contacts and cooperation at all times. In addition, General Sisavat Keobounphan, interior minister of Laos, also led a delegation to Bangkok in January 1974 for discussions with General Sitthi Chirarot, the Thai interior minister.

Apart from the promotion of relations at the government level, civil servants and people of both countries also cooperate in many aspects in order to strengthen relations at the local level. These include such events as friendly sports competitions and traditional boat races which both sides alternately hosted.

On 19 May 1984, the Province of Nong Khai dispatched a team of athletes to Vientiane in order to participate in a friendly sports competition. On 10 October 1984, Vientiane reciprocated by sending a team to participate in the traditional boat race at Nong Khai. Apart from this, local officials from both sides hold consultations on a regular basis, such as those that recently took place between Nong Khai and Vientiane.

The exchange of visits by leaders and high ranking local officials of both sides, together with the joint participation in various events by the Thai and Lao peoples, clearly indicate that even if Laos has undergone political changes which are different from the Thai political setting, the conduct of close relations between these two countries can still continue normally at every level. This, indeed, is to maintain the friendly relations which have been in existence for a long long time between the two countries.

Third Installment

BK281254 Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in Thai 1000 GMT 18 Jan 85

[Third installment of "Special Report": "Evolution of Thai-Lao Relations"]

[Text] Thai-Lao Economic Cooperation

The Thai Government realizes that Laos, its close neighbor, is a small, developing country. Thailand has the sincere intention of strengthening good relations between the two countries both politically and economically. Thailand, therefore, has continuously extended economic cooperation and assistance to Laos as much as possible. During an official visit by Thai leaders to Laos on 4-6 January 1979, a joint communique was issued, and an economic and trade agreement between Thailand and Laos was also signed. This cooperation has contributed significantly to the subsequent strengthening of Thai-Lao economic relations.

Trade Cooperation

Trade contacts between Thailand and Laos have been in existence for a long time. Since the end of French influence in Indochina, the total value of trade between Thailand and Laos has clearly increased. Since 1970, major Thai exports to Laos have been mainly sweet condensed milk, rice, paper, paper products, and other necessary items in exchange for timber and wood products from Laos.

Today, Laos still imports more goods from Thailand than from any other country. Major Thai products imported by Laos are mostly food items such as rice, glutinous rice, tobacco, sugar, corn, fish meal, fuel, and sweet condensed milk in addition to other items such as cement, iron rods, iron bars, and so forth. On the other hand, Laos exports various wood products, tea, coffee, and seed to Thailand.

Furthermore, Thailand and Laos are members of the Trade Negotiation Groups of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, whose aims are to promote trade within each region by lifting various trade barriers in the regional countries. However, Thailand and Laos have for a very long time had close historical ties, and have continually arranged trade negotiations to seek possible ways and means to help reduce Laos' trade deficit with Thailand. These trade negotiations have been extremely successful. Thailand has reduced import duties on logs and processed timber from Laos.

The volume of trade between Thailand and Laos has been rather unstable but has lately shown an upward trend. In 1982, trade reached a record peak of 1,002.43 million baht.

Thailand's market share in Laos reached its peak in 1982 but started to decline in 1983, as Laos turned to trade more with socialist countries.

Furthermore, Thailand has extended facilities for the transshipment of goods to Laos in various forms such as special freight rates and simpler customs clearance procedure warehouses and has studied ways and means of facilitating the exchange of goods for a smoother and more rapid procedure. First, the Port Authority of Thailand has continuously provided for quick unloading of goods destined for Laos and has rented warehouses at special, lower than average rates. Second, Thailand and Laos have agreed to let the Express Transportation Organization of Thailand [ETO] act as the transshipper of goods to Laos to avoid damage. The ETO also charges special, low rates. Third, Thailand has opened up more border crossing points such as at Nong Khai, The Nalaeng, and Mukdahan-Savannakhet to facilitate transshipment of goods to Laos. The Thai Government has also undertaken various measures to speed up procedures at border crossing points, such as the advance surrender of documents related to the receipt of goods.

Moreover, goods going through border crossing points at Nong Khai and Mukdahan worth no more than 20,000 baht are under the authority of the provincial governors concerned. Goods destined for or belonging to various international organizations and embassies entail minimum procedures and paper work.

Agreement was reached at the meeting between the director general of the Foreign Trade Department of Thailand and his Lao counterpart in 1982 to facilitate financial transactions between trading partners by allowing 15 more banks in addition to the Krung Thai Bank to be involved in the letter of credit matter.

The volume of cross-border trade from 1978 to 1982 was relatively stable with slight fluctuations. The average annual value of imports into Laos from 1978 to 1982 was 1,037.5 million baht while the average annual value of goods exported across the border by Laos was 259.4 million baht. The total value of cross-border trade was 1,296.9 million baht or about twice the total value of the Thai-Lao trade as a whole. Imports and exports through the border points were about twice the value of Laos' total imports from Thailand and seven times the value of exports to Thailand respectively. Lao imports through Thailand are fairly consistent in their composition and value, including fuel, iron and steel, radiators, machinery, electrical goods, automobiles, optical equipment, movie cameras, cotton, medical goods, chemicals, flour, and cereals. Major Lao exports through Thailand include tea, coffee, herbs and spices, timber and wood products, ore tailing, and ashes.

Thailand has provided three channels for goods to pass from Laos to third countries and vice versa: between Ta Sadet and Tha Deua piers; between ferry piers in Nong Khai and Tha Nalaeng; and between Mukdahan and Savannakhet, which is special in that the traffic of goods is only one way -- from Laos to third countries. Permission may be obtained from the minister of the interior if it is deemed necessary to ship goods to Savannakhet.

Recently, Thailand decided to relax from 20 November to 19 December 1984 the restrictions on transshipment of goods by opening another border crossing points at Chiang Khong District, Chiang Rai Province, which is situated opposite Houai Sai, Bo Keo District in Laos, in order to enable the private sector of Thailand to deliver goods still pending under previously signed contracts to the Lao companies concerned.

Thai-Lao trade relations have existed for a long time, and it may be asserted that Thailand is Laos' most important trading partner. At present, Laos continues to purchase Thai goods as the most convenient and economical. Although there have been occasional border incidents, trade relations between Thailand and Laos have always continued unabated.

This exchange is mutually beneficial, providing the respective peoples with the opportunity to consume goods at lower prices as transportation costs are minimized and also to enjoy a larger variety of goods than would otherwise be available.

Prior to the change of regime in Laos, Thailand regularly gave technical assistance to Laos. Thai advisers in agricultural and various other fields were sent to Laos to contribute to Laos' development efforts. The Laos Government annually sent many students to Thailand for higher education and training, and many Lao people came to further their studies in various Thai educational institutions through their own private means.

Since 1975, particularly since 1978, Thailand has provided Laos with scholarships and training, experts, specialists, financial assistance, and equipment as well as technical services to help promote Laos' economic development projects.

Since the Thai Government has the policy of increasing aid to Laos plus the fact that some Thai Government agencies are in a better position to offer additional training, technical aid, in the form of scholarships and training such as applied plant protection, has been offered. Full expenses for some of the training courses under the Thai Aid Program such as corn and sorghum improvement, agricultural extension and communication, hoof-and-mouth disease control, and water buffalo reproduction, as well as scholarships under the Third Country Training Program, are borne by the Thai Government. Such aid reflects Thailand's sincere intention to give technical cooperation to Laos.

Apart from these scholarships, Thailand still has several scholarships and training courses to be given to Lao trainees in the near future.

Fourth Installment

BK281427 Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in Thai 1000 GMT 22 Jan 85

[Fourth installment of "Special Report": "Evolution of Thai-Lao Relations"]

[Text] Thai-Lao Cooperation in the Framework of the Mekong Committee

The close cooperation between Thailand and Laos in the economic and social spheres is not limited to bilateral cooperation only. An outstanding and significant area of cooperation between Thailand and Laos on a multilateral basis is the cooperation within the framework of the Mekong Committee, which was established in 1957 with assistance from the UN Development Program and ESCAP with the objective of planning and developing the Mekong Delta in an orderly manner for the greatest attainable benefit of all the riparian countries. The activities of this committee cover developmental activities in various fields and branches of development, namely in the areas of flood control and meteorology, agriculture and fisheries, land and water resources, energy and shipping, and so on. Political developments in Indochina in 1975 saw the activities of the Mekong Committee come to a halt and not pick up again for the next 3 years. In 1978, the Mekong Committee resumed activities under the name Mekong Ad Hoc Committee, as the problem regarding membership of Cambodia had not yet been settled. The resumption reflected the recognition on the part of Thailand, Laos, and Vietnam of the great significance of the activities of the committee toward economic and social development in the region. From the inception of the cooperative framework in 1957 until the present, member countries have received assistance in various forms to the total value of \$713,731,370.

Although cooperation within the framework of the Mekong Committee is multilateral, close cooperation and amicable relations between Thailand and Laos is required to attain the objectives of the numerous projects.

As a direct consequence of the importance that Thailand attaches to Laos as a neighboring country with which it has very close ethnic, cultural, and historical ties, Thailand has continually rendered its support for various development projects and programs initiated by Laos within the framework of the Mekong Committee, especially projects relating to development of energy resources and transportation by water.

Energy projects of major significance include the Nam Ngum project to construct an electricity generating dam on the Ngum River in Laos. The project is divided into two phases of development. The first phase involves construction of a concrete dam 75 meters high and 469 meters long with a capability of producing 30 megawatts of electricity, the majority of which is sold to Thailand. Income from the sale of electricity produced under this project represents the largest contribution to Laos' annual income and constitutes a significant share of its export income.

Furthermore, during the construction phase of the project, the Thai Government provided assistance in kind to the Lao Government in the form of a cement loan to the value of \$1.35 million, the electrical energy required during construction, and agreed to the laying of underwater cables within Thai territory in Nakhon Phanom and Mukdahan Provinces in order to facilitate transmission of electricity to Thakhaek and Savannakhet at low cost. This has enabled Laos living in these areas to benefit from consumption of low-cost electricity. It may, therefore, be correctly asserted that Thailand has been able to extend a great deal of cooperation to Laos regarding the implementation of the first phase of the project. The second phase involves increasing the productive capacity from 30 to 110 megawatts. In this connection, the Thai Government has agreed to purchase all surplus electricity after internal use from Laos. In 1983, Thailand purchased some 555.4 million baht worth of electricity from the Lao Nam Ngum Project, therefore contributing significantly to the development of that country.

Projects To Develop Transportation by Water in Laos

The Thai Government is always cognizant of the problems Laos faces as a country without immediate access to the sea. In this connection, the Mekong River, in addition to being a gateway to communication with the rest of the world, is an essential means of internal communication for Laos because all its major cities are located on the river. Communication by any other means is performed with extreme difficulty. Thus, the Thai Government has accorded generous assistance and cooperation to Laos towards the development of the project to improve transportation on the Mekong River in Laos, particularly within the framework of the Mekong Committee. It is possible to outline the three projects of assistance rendered by Thailand to Laos as follows:

Project To Improve Shipping Routes on the Mekong River

Survey of water channels and navigation -- In 1958, the UN Development Fund provided financial assistance to the project for the development of the lower Mekong River Basin in order to facilitate the surveying of water channels and the placement of navigational signs along the stretch of the Mekong River between Thailand and Laos. In this connection, the Royal Thai Navy played a major role in accepting responsibility for conducting the primary surveying. Furthermore, the placement of buoys and navigational signals was mainly carried out by officials of the National Energy Administration. When this project was completed in 1960, it contributed towards the large reduction in the number of accidents and the extent of damage involved in this means of transportation for Laos.

Destruction of Kabao Islet -- The presence of numerous islands and islets proves a major obstacle to navigation and shipping on the Mekong River.

The largest islet, which is also the main obstacle to navigation, is Kabao Islet in the That Phanom District area of Thailand and in the Savannakhet area of Laos.

The UN Development Program provided financial assistance through the Mekong Committee to facilitate digging by the explosion of a 30 by 100 meter channel in Kabao islet. The Thai Government played a major role in this project through organizing the necessary technical training for the operation at the Nong Khai Shipbuilding Center of the Department of Vocational Training. In addition, the Royal Thai Navy sent naval officers to participate and assist in carrying out the operation. The operation was completed in 1973, enabling shipping between Thailand and Laos and between important cities in Laos such as between Vientiane and Savannakhet to be conducted year round instead of communications coming to a halt during the February to April dry season. Furthermore, vessels are now able to carry full loads on each trip, hence an added benefit accruing to a very large extent to Laos.

Improvements of Ports in Laos -- Although communication by water is Laos' most important means of communication, Laos lacked modern ports and efficient facilities, especially in the 1960's. This made shipping a troublesome operation. In the early 1970's the Lao Government received assistance from the Mekong Committee for the further development of the major ports which include Luang Prabang port, Thakhek port, Savannakhet port, and so on. In this connection, the Thai Government rendered its good cooperation by facilitating the transport of construction materials, particularly cement. In addition, the Thai Government allowed the private sector to participate in bidding for the contract for the construction of these ports. Thus, it can be seen that the majority of ports in Laos were constructed by Thai private companies. Furthermore, the Thai Government's consent to the development of Keng Kabao port in Laos, as expressed at the second meeting of the Mekong Ad Hoc Committee in 1978, demonstrates Thailand's sincere intention to find a solution to Laos' problem emanating from the lack of access to the sea. This port is situated in a location with access to State Highway 9, which leads to Da Nang in Vietnam. Thus, it may be concluded that Thailand's consent is equivalent to the granting of the opportunity for Laos to have access to the sea through Vietnam.

Ship Building

Pusher/Barge Building -- Prior to 1980, Laos possessed approximately 37 wooden barges of 20-80 metric ton capacity. Shortage of barges and modern ports meant the annual quantity of shipping was limited to only 260,000 metric tons. Transportation by barge took a long time. In 1981, Laos was granted financial assistance from the Mekong Committee for the construction of a modern 400 horsepower barge and two 21-meter-long ferries of 10 metric ton capacity. Thailand cooperated with Laos in this matter by providing facilities at the Nong Khai Shipbuilding Centre of the Department of Vocational Training for the construction of these modern barges. Their use increased the shipping volume by 120,000 tons yearly and saved a lot of time; that is, it reduced the travel time from Vientiane to Keng Kabao from 5 to 3 days.

Construction of cargo vessel for use between Nong Khai and Tha Nalen -- In 1981, the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany granted \$500,000 through the Mekong Committee for the building of a cargo vessel with the capacity of 90 tons for transporting goods from Nong Khai to Tha Naleng. Assistance from Thailand in this matter involved construction of the vessel at the Shipbuilding Center in Nong Khai at low cost. This project increased the efficiency of shipping between Nong Khai and Tha Naleng by approximately 12 percent annually. Shipping volume in 1982 was 96,720 metric tons, which increased to 118,330 metric tons in 1983 and reached 135,200 metric tons in 1984. The increase in efficiency resulted in more rapid and convenient service for consumers and decreased the damage to products, thus lowering the prices of these products. In order to promote more efficient shipping of goods in response to the increasing level of consumption in Laos, Thailand approved the second shipbuilding project at the 20th meeting of the Mekong Committee in April 1984, held in Bangkok.

This second ship will have a loading capacity of 120 metric tons and will cost \$1,020,000. The FRG Government also provided financial support for this project. The Thai Government has agreed that the Nong Khai Shipbuilding Center will construct this vessel for Laos. The new vessel should be completed in January 1985. In addition, the Nong Khai center will also carry out repairs on the first vessel.

Though the members of the Mekong Committee realize the importance of their cooperation within the committee, they all agree that the Cambodian problem and the problem of the nonparticipation of Cambodia in the committee are, to a certain degree, obstacles to the progress of the committee's work because the scope of the projects under consideration are of a basin-wide and regional nature. Hence, there has not been much progress toward the attainment of the committee's objective in the development of the Mekong Basin in a systematic manner. The Thai Government is fully cognizant of the immense potential economic and social benefits the region as a whole could receive from the Lower Mekong Development Project. However, Thailand also realizes that under the present circumstances, only a limited degree of economic cooperation is attainable. Thus, the Thai Government has demonstrated a clear position in pushing the Mekong Committee as a forum for technical cooperation for furthering economic and social development of all member countries. The Thai Government opposes introduction of political considerations into the committee, because this may hinder the committee's activities at the cost of the development process in this region, especially for Laos. It needs to be pointed out that the Project for the Development of the Lower Mekong River Basin is a major source of resources for Laos' development process.

Final Installment

BK281541 Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in Thai 1000 GMT 25 Jan 85

[Fifth and final installment of "Special Report": "Evolution of Thai-Lao Relations"]

[Text] Reflections of the Thai Government on Thai-Lao Relations

From the past to the present, Thailand has always extended a helping hand to the Lao in situations of hardship and when they have sought refuge in the kingdom. Prominent Lao figures, several of whom are in power today, were granted refuge in the period of the struggle for independence to liberate the people of Laos from French colonialism. Following the change of the system of government in Laos in 1975, an unprecedented number of Lao fled to seek refuge in Thailand. Assistance was extended to these people in consideration of the brotherly ties that exist between Thailand and Laos, and above all for humanitarian reasons.

Since the changeover to communism in Laos in 1975 to the end of November 1984, some 286,650 Lao refugees have sought temporary refuge in Thailand. The Thai Government, in cooperation with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees [UNHCR], has provided care and sustenance for these people in the form of shelter, food, and medicine, while a durable solution can eventually be found for this problem. In this connection, although approximately 18 countries have already extended resettlement opportunities to a total of some 206,618 Lao refugees and another 2,545 people have already been repatriated as of November 1984, some 80,030 Lao refugees remain in Thailand. The trend is for this total to increase, particularly in view of the fact that, from the beginning of 1984, there has been a regular influx of people from Laos at a rate of some 1,000 to 1,400 per month. Such mass movements of refugees occur daily; on some occasions, they involve whole villages, including monks. These migrants cite reasons of extreme hardship and the lack of any prospects for the future as justification for their flight.

It is the Thai Government's firm policy that refuge granted to Lao refugees who arrived in Thailand since 1975 be strictly accorded on a temporary basis and purely for humanitarian reasons. In addition, the government has rendered its assistance to the voluntary repatriation to Laos program through providing cooperation and support to the UNHCR in implementing this program and through seeking the support of various countries for the Lao Government's program for returnees to Laos under the auspices of the UNHCR.

This assistance program, apart from benefiting Lao returnees, has positive spillover effects on Lao people living within the same community. Unfortunately, the Lao Government has not provided adequate backing for the implementation of the UNHCR's voluntary repatriation program, resulting in an extremely small number of refugees repatriated to Laos. Furthermore, the Thai Government's humanitarian gesture in providing assistance to Lao refugees has unfortunately been misinterpreted by the Lao Government as being ill-intentioned.

Concerning bilateral relations, it is a fact that Thailand and Laos are brotherly states and have continuously rendered mutual assistance to each other in the past. Although there may have been some unhappy episodes, the problems have always been resolved in a friendly and brotherly manner. However, recently there are some circles and individuals intent upon destroying this relationship through various ways and means. Thailand, on its part, has always tried to uphold and maintain the existing amicable relations with Laos. Since the advent of a communist regime in Laos in 1975, relations continued on a normal basis, with Thailand continuing to extend assistance and cooperation to the new government in Laos. The difference in political systems has never been perceived as a hindrance to the fostering of these good relations. It is nevertheless unfortunate that Lao leaders refuse and do not even attempt to understand Thailand's good intentions. They choose instead to seek favors from other countries, particularly Vietnam, asserting that Laos and Vietnam share a special relationship even though it is clearly evident that the two have nothing in common ethnically, socially, or culturally. Furthermore, the activities on the part of Lao leaders of late clearly indicates that they are willing servants of the dictates from Hanoi, and in so doing, they have at times been neglecting their duties of preserving and promoting the interests and well-being of the Lao people themselves. The Lao people are fully aware that the cooperation and assistance received from Vietnam are not devoid of any expectation of reciprocity and is really intended to place Laos under the total control of Vietnam and therefore to enable Hanoi to realize the objectives of fulfilling Vietnam's dream of establishing Indochinese federation.

In order to realize this dream, Vietnam has infiltrated into every aspect of Laos' social fabric, both at the official and grass-roots level. At the grass-roots level, Vietnamese have moved into Laos to settle in increasing numbers. Starting from the countryside far from the capital, Vientiane, Vietnamese settlers, especially Vietnamese soldiers, have moved into various villages to live with the natives, causing them great hardships and creating resentment. Most of these Vietnamese newcomers migrated from north Vietnam, although some were once Vietnamese refugees in Thailand who later migrated to Laos. It is important to note that these Vietnamese have special privileges denied the Lao population in general, for instance the right to choose where to live or travel. These privileges generate feelings of discontent among the Lao people, who are the rightful owners of the country.

There are Vietnamese in various Lao Government agencies as well. In reality, these Vietnamese are not advisers per se, but the ones who take control and give orders. Those Lao officials who are pro-Vietnamese will be trusted and promoted by the party and the state, while those who honestly work for the country will be put under surveillance or prevented from working to their full ability by being demoted or transferred. The latter Lao officials are found to be high ranking, even at the ministerial level, and are also subjected to the same rules and regulations. In the past, capable ministers who belonged to the old system or who were actually and honestly working for the betterment of the country but were not pro-Vietnamese, were often demoted or transferred to less significant positions.

They were replaced by pro-Vietnamese officials or by officials of Vietnamese descent. It is highly possible therefore that, in the future, the Lao cabinet members will be entirely pro-Vietnamese. If and when that happens, it will be a great misfortune for the Lao people since less and less attention and care will be given them by the government.

The Vietnamese infiltration into Laos is a gradual step-by-step process. From the outside, it does not appear to occur in any noticeable way, but for the Lao people themselves, the Vietnamese ploys are clearly evident. Although the patriotic feelings among the Lao in general are still quite strong, they cannot express them because of their fear of the new government's totalitarian measures. These Lao therefore feel it is pointless to remain in their own country without any rights whatsoever. They view the future as very bleak. Many have decided to seek better prospects abroad. Those who flee are mostly young people and government officials who believe they can no longer do meaningful things for their motherland. For the elderly, who cannot expect to begin a new life and wish to die in their homeland, they wish to see their youngsters make it to other countries and to better things rather than remain in their own country but devoid of rights.

The reasons behind the Lao refugee influx into Thailand in the early stages after the change in government were basically political in nature. However, in the later stages, the reasons have mostly been economic, since the new government has begun to put economic pressure on the people in the form of levies on both small businesses and agricultural products in order to attain its objective according to the socialist processes, without due consideration for the negative effects these measures have on the people as a whole. As long as the theoretical objectives are attained, the new government is satisfied. The reasons mentioned above have caused many Lao to become dispirited and to resort to fleeing to Thailand. Presently, the number of Lao seeking refuge in Thailand is increasing every day.

Even with a large number of Lao fleeing to Thailand, the Lao authorities have not sought any preventive measures to deter them since these escapees are looked upon as undesirable remnants of the old regime, not easily convertible to the thinking of the communist system. Had they decided to remain in the country, it would still be difficult to control them from the administrative standpoint. Therefore, the new government of Laos has paid more attention to the young by giving them favorable treatment in order to turn them into genuine followers of communism in the future. As for the gap created by the outflow of the young population, it has been slowly filled by the newly arrived Vietnamese settlers, especially in Vietnamese soldiers now stationed throughout Laos. Therefore, the trend of the future could be that the national and indigenous characteristics of the Lao people as a race, characteristics which have been preserved and passed down through the long history of this nation, will at the end completely disappear.

AIR STRIKES USED IN ATTEMPT TO MOVE SRV FORCES

BK300908 Bangkok BANGKOK WORLD in English 30 Jan 85 p 1

[Text] Trat -- Thai forces today continued to blast Vietnamese troops with air strikes and heavy artillery in an all-out attempt to dislodge the intruding Vietnamese force which was digging in more deeply inside the Thai border.

A military source said that aircraft had strafed the Vietnamese on the Banthat mountain range along the Chanthaburi and Trat provincial border some 250 kilometres southeast of Bangkok while the Marines opened up with a heavy artillery barrage. Casualties on the Vietnamese side were not known but Navy spokesman Rear Admiral Sakchai Kaeowchinda said this morning that since the drive began last weekend the Vietnamese had suffered high casualties. So far Thai Marines had suffered one killed and one wounded in intermittent fighting over the weekend.

Killed was Pvt Chittakon Phetcharat and wounded was Able Seaman Wasan Bunyawutthi.

The rear admiral said that the fighting this morning was on the Banthat mountain range at Khlong Pun Piak of Bo Rai District, Trat. Another report placed the fighting in neighbouring Pong Nam Ron District of Chanthaburi. Rear Adm Sakchai said that the intrusion happened as Vietnamese soldiers staged an offensive against the Khmer resistance forces at Pailin, opposite Pong Nam Ron on Saturday. They crossed over the border and clashed heavily with the marines, he said. He said the Vietnamese were still digging in inside Thailand.

Meanwhile, another military source said that Vietnamese troops began crossing over to the Thai border on January 11 in an attempt to rout the Khmer Rouge. When they had crossed in they stayed there without retreating, he said. He said that now Vietnam had posted two divisions of troops less than a kilometre from the border of Ban Dan Chumphon in Trat Province. Their presence inside and near to our border had posed a serious threat to our national security and hence forced the Chanthaburi-Trat Field Forces to stage one of the heaviest offensives to drive them out immediately, he said.

Clash With Marines

BK300101 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 30 Jan 85 p 1, 3

[Excerpts] Aranyaprathet -- Border security forces have called in heavy weapons and air strikes to drive Vietnamese troops back into Kampuchea, a military spokesman said yesterday.

Captain Chaturon Phankongchun said the intruding force clashed with Thai marines yesterday about one kilometer from the border in Trat Province. Capt Chaturon, of the Chanthaburi-Trat Defence Command, said the air strikes were called in following the skirmish which left one Thai soldier dead and three wounded. Vietnamese casualty figures were not available. On Monday, marines called for air support and several sorties of U-10 "Peace Maker" aircraft were sent to strafe and rocket Vietnamese positions, the officer said.

As the border remained tense, Kampuchean coalition President Prince Norodom Sihanouk arrived in Bangkok last night. He will leave for an undisclosed location this morning. Prince Sihanouk, who will be in Thailand for three weeks, is scheduled to meet United Nations Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar on Thursday. The Khmer resistance leader, who flew in from Beijing, is expected to meet Mr Perez de Cuellar tomorrow afternoon here with coalition Prime Minister Son Sann. The prince is scheduled to travel to Kampuchea in the coming weeks to accept credentials from ambassadors-designate of North Korea, Bangladesh, Senegal, Sudan and Mauritania. Aides also said Prince Sihanouk will preside over a cabinet meeting of the coalition in Kampuchea.

National Security Council Secretary-General Prasong Sunsiri said the [Khmer] civilians would be allowed to move deeper into Thai territory if there was a genuine threat against them. Sqn-Ldr Prasong said that in practice, the Thai military in cooperation with relief organizations had set aside zones for Khmer civilians fleeing Vietnamese attacks in accordance with the gravity of the situation.

AUTHORITIES MONITOR ACTIVITIES OF 'SPIES'

BK260902 Bangkok THAI RAT in Thai 23 Jan 85 p 3, 2

[Excerpt] According to Captain Chaturong Phankhongchun, representative of the Chanthaburi-Trat forces, in the past month large numbers of Vietnamese troops and weapons were moved close to the Thai-Cambodian border.

Units were dispatched to collect information about Cambodian resistance bases. Spies, mostly women, were sent out to gather information about Thai forces. The women spies reportedly spoke fluent Thai and tried to gather information from Thai villagers in remote areas. It was believed that these women were former Thai communists who sympathized with Vietnam. Thai authorities were closely following their activities.

REGIONAL COMMANDER ON MOVING REFUGEES INLAND

BK291024 Bangkok BANGKOK WORLD in English 29 Jan 85 p 3

[Text] Khmer civilians cannot be moved to safer areas deeper inside Thailand because it could pose problems, First Army Region Commander Lt-Gen Phichit Kunlawanit indicated this morning.

Lt-Gen Phichit's comment came after Khmer civilians at evacuation Site Six submitted a letter to UN Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar on Sunday asking him to negotiate with the Thai Government for the evacuation to a safer area deeper inside Thailand.

Lt-Gen Phichit said that problems were expected to arise if the Khmers were allowed to move deeper inside the Thai border. The commander said that the refugees (at Site 6) were merely allowed to seek temporary refuge on Thai territory. But he said that the matter was up to the Foreign Ministry and the government.

Asked to comment on the UN chief's visit to the border camps, Lt-Gen Phichit said that Mr Perez de Cuellar had told him that when he visited the border about four years ago, he saw the problems of the refugees and that during his current visit the same problems still existed.

Meanwhile, a military source told the WORLD this morning that fighting between Vietnamese troops and Khmer nationalists continued today at Ritthisen, Nong Chan and Dong Rak. The number of casualties was not immediately known.

However, the Khmer Serzi Radio claimed this morning that its men had killed 10 Vietnamese, wounded six and captured one Vietnamese soldier during a clash with the Vietnamese near Nong Chan on Sunday. The Khmer People's National Liberation Front, it said, suffered two wounded. The source reported that Hanoi yesterday reinforced its troops at Ban Toek Sap, Damnak Chek and Ban O Trav Chu. He said 28 military trucks with troops from Sisophon were seen travelling on Highway No 9/11 to the three areas. Another 2,000 troops were seen moving north of Route 5 to Ban Preav, Soriya opposite Nong Chan camp, the source said. He said that two days earlier, 32 truckloads of troops were also seen deployed at Poipet and in areas opposite the south of Aranyaprathet, Ban Ang Sila and evacuation Site Six.

CONTINUED REPORTAGE ON PEREZ DE CUELLAR VISIT

Pham Van Dong Hosts Party

OW291556 Hanoi VNA in English 1546 GMT 29 Jan 85

[Text] Hanoi VNA Jan 29 -- Chairman of the Vietnamese Council of Ministers Pham Van Dong received United Nations Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar and his party at the Presidential Palace here this afternoon. Vietnamese Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach attended the reception.

Chairman Pham Van Dong welcomed the UN secretary-general to Vietnam this time and expressed his hope that the secretary-general will contribute to achieving the solution to the restoration of peace and stability in Southeast Asia. He also expressed his thanks to the UN's international organizations for their considerable aids to the Vietnamese people in national construction.

Javier Perez de Cuellar expressed his respect for and profound sympathy with the courageous Vietnamese people who are making great efforts in post-war national reconstruction. He thanked the Vietnamese leaders and people for their warm hospitality towards him and his party.

After the reception, Chairman Pham Van Dong gave a dinner for Javier Perez de Cuellar, Mrs de Cuellar, and their party. This evening, Karl Englund, head-delegate of the United Nations Development Program (UNDP), gave a banquet at the International Club here in honour of the UN secretary-general, his wife and his party.

Cambodia, MIA's Discussed

HK300920 Hong Kong AFP in English 0902 GMT 30 Jan 85

[Text] Hanoi, Jan (AFP) -- Vietnam today called on the United States to help peacefully resolve the Cambodian conflict, saying that Washington could "easily" contribute to peace in Southeast Asia. "If the United States can make a war here, it can easily make a peace here," Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach said at a joint press conference here with visiting U.N. Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar. "Any efforts from the United States to solve any questions in Southeast Asia are welcome," Mr. Thach said. He gave no details on his view of the specific role Washington could play.

Mr. Perez de Cuellar, meanwhile, said that he had conveyed a message from Washington to Vietnam -- the main Soviet ally in Asia -- on "three or four issues," including that of about 2,500 U.S. soldiers still listed as missing in action (MIA) in Indochina. The U.N. secretary general said "significant progress" had been made on these issues, but gave no further details.

Mr. Thach said Vietnam had already acted "free of charge" in searching for the remains of the missing U.S. servicemen -- an issue generally considered particularly sensitive in the United States. Vietnam has repeatedly maintained that no U.S. servicemen are still alive on its territory. In response to a question, Mr. Thach added that he did not think this issue was "a condition" for a normalization between the United States and Vietnam, which do not have diplomatic relations.

Mr. Perez de Cuellar, meanwhile, said some "progress" had been made in his efforts to institute a dialogue between Vietnam and the non-communist Southeast Asian countries, particularly Thailand, to help resolve the Cambodian conflict.

"I am a kind of mailman -- a little more than a mailman," he said, adding that "I don't only pass information from one side to the other but I also try to interpret to each side the position of the other side."

Vietnam has stationed an estimated 150,000 to 170,000 soldiers in Cambodia since it invaded the country six years ago and toppled the pro-Chinese Khmer Rouge regime. In mid-November, Vietnamese forces launched a dry-season offensive against resistance bases along the Thai-Cambodian border.

The tripartite Cambodian resistance coalition, made up of the communist Khmer Rouge and two non-communist movements, is backed by the non-communist Southeast Asian nations and China. The coalition holds the Cambodian seat at the United Nations. Mr. Thach called Mr. Perez de Cuellar's visit to Vietnam "fruitful", adding that it was "a very important contribution to the cause of peace and stability in Southeast Asia."

The U.N. secretary general, who arrived here from Thailand two days ago and was to return to Bangkok today, stressed that both here and in Bangkok he had received a "strong impression of interest" for a negotiated settlement in Cambodia. "I think we have made progress, but I don't want to sound over-optimistic or to raise expectations. We have to be very careful and not indulge in expressions of premature satisfaction," he said.

ANNIVERSARY MESSAGES EXCHANGED WITH USSR

OW291546 Hanoi VNA in English 1527 GMT 29 85

[Text] Hanoi VNA Jan. 29 -- Warmest greetings were exchanged today between Vietnam and the Soviet Union on the 35th anniversary of the establishment of the diplomatic relations between the two countries. In a message addressed to Andrey Andreyevich Gromyko, Political Bureau member of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union Central Committee, first vice-chairman of the Council of Ministers and foreign minister of the USSR, Nguyen Co Thach, alternate Political Bureau member of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee and foreign minister, says:

"Over the past 35 years, the great friendship between Vietnam and the Soviet Union, based on the consistent principles of pure Marxism-Leninism and socialist internationalism, has overcome all trials and has been constantly consolidating and developing. The friendly relations and the multifaceted cooperation between our two countries, which have been raised to a new level with higher quality by the Vietnam-USSR treaty of friendship and cooperation signed in 1978, are vividly demonstrating their strong vitality and are promoting their considerable effect on the revolutionary cause of the people of each country as well as on the common struggle against the imperialist, reactionary and hegemonist forces, for peace, national independence and social progress.

"The Vietnamese people are greatly glad and proud to have the Soviet people as their strategic ally and their faithful friend, who always give the Vietnamese revolution their great and effective support and assistance. I take this opportunity to express the Vietnamese people's deep gratitude to the Communist Party, the government and the people of the Soviet Union for this noble internationalist sentiment.

"May the fraternal Soviet people, under the leadership of the glorious Communist Party of the Soviet Union headed by esteemed Comrade Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko, record new achievements in fulfilling the 11th Five-Year Plan to practically welcome the 27th Congress of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union".

The Soviet Foreign Ministry's message addressed to Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach says:

"We are highly elated to note that the relations between our two parties and countries, firmly based on Marxism-Leninism and socialist internationalism -- the fundamental objectives and the common interests of our two peoples -- have been strongly developed over the past period of time and are actually prevailing over all spheres of life in our two countries.

"The past decades have proved that the fraternal friendship between the Soviet Union and Vietnam, and the close coordination of their activities in the international arena, which are firmly serving the construction of socialism and communism in our two countries, constitute an important factor of strengthening the socialist community and of the struggle of socialist countries and all other progressive forces on our planet for world peace and security.

"We are firmly confident that the unshakable friendship and the comprehensive cooperation between the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the Socialist Republic of Vietnam will be constantly consolidated and developed in the interest of our two peoples, and of socialism and peace".

MAJOR EVENTS IN DEVELOPMENT OF COMMUNIST PARTY

OW281756 Hanoi VNA in English 1513 GMT 28 Jan 85

["Communist Party of Vietnam: A Chronology of Major Events" -- VNA headline]

[Text] Hanoi VNA Jan. 28 -- President Ho Chi Minh and the Founding of the Communist Party of Vietnam

-- June 5, 1911: Nguyen Ai Quoc, an earlier name of President Ho Chi Minh, left Vietnam to find the path for national salvation. He came to the conclusion: "The only path to save the country and liberate the nation is the path of the proletarian revolution".

-- Dec. 1920: Nguyen Ai Quoc joined the French Communist Party at the Tours congress and became the first Vietnamese communist.

-- June 1925: Nguyen Ai Quoc founded the Vietnam Revolutionary Youth Association in preparation for the founding of the Communist Party.

-- February 1929: The first communist cell was founded in Vietnam. Up to early 1930, three communist organizations came into being one after another in Bac Ky (Tonkin), Nam Ky (Cochinchina) and Trung Ky (central Vietnam).

-- Feb. 3, 1930: Nguyen Ai Quoc, in his capacity as representative of the Communist International, convened a meeting of representatives of the three communist groups at Kowloon, near Hong Kong, which founded a single communist party, the Communist Party of Vietnam.

15-Year Battle To Regain National Independence

-- July 1930: Tran Phu, the first secretary-general of the party, drafted the political program which made clear that the Vietnamese revolution had to go through two stages, the national people's democratic revolution and the socialist revolution.

-- October 1930: The party Central Committee at its first plenum decided to change the name of the party to Indochinese Communist Party.

-- Feb. 1930-April 1931: A revolutionary high tide swept the country culminating in the Tghe Tinh soviets. The Indochinese Communist Party was officially recognized as a member of the Communist International.

- March 27, 1935: First party congress in Macau, China.
- July 26, 1936: The party Central Committee meeting under the chairmanship of Le Hong Phong, alternate member of the Communist International Executive Committee, decided to set up the Indochinese Anti-Imperialist People's Front. This was later renamed Indochinese United Democratic Front which rallied broad masses of the people in the Indochinese congress movement to struggle for the right to live, democratic freedoms and peace.
- November 6, 1939: The party Central Committee held its 6th meeting under the chairmanship of Secretary-General Nguyen An Cu, decided to found the Indochinese United Anti-Imperialist Front and adopt new forms of struggle conformable to the new situation after the outbreak of World War 2.
- June 1940: The Japanese fascists invaded Indochina, and the French colonialists surrendered to them.
- November 6, 1940: The 7th meeting of the party Central Committee held in Dinh Bang, Tu Son (Bac Ninh Province) decide that the party's immediate task was to prepare for the armed uprising to seize power, and elected a provisional central committee with Truong Chinh as acting secretary-general.
- Feb. 8, 1941: Nguyen Ai Quoc returned to the country to assume direct leadership of the revolution.
- October 5, 1941: The 8th meeting of the party Central Committee held under the chairmanship of Nguyen Ai Quoc, decided that the immediate task was to liberate the nation. The meeting also decided to found the Vietnam League for Independence (Viet Minh), and elected a new Central Committee with Truong Chinh as general secretary.
- Dec. 22, 1944: The Armed Propaganda Brigade for the liberation of Vietnam was created under the command of Vo Nguyen Giap.
- March 9, 1945: The party Standing Committee convened an enlarged conference at Dinh Bang, Tu Son (Bac Ninh) just as the Japanese had staged a coup d'etat against the French. The committee decided to establish the people's revolutionary power.
- August 13, 1945: The party held a national conference at Tan Trao (Tuyen Quang Province) and founded the National Insurrection Committee.
- August 16, 1945: The People's Congress opened at Tan Trao, sanctioned the order for the general uprising and elected a national liberation central Committee which was to become the provisional government headed by President Ho Chi Minh. The congress also adopted the national flag and anthem.
- August 19, 1945: The uprising was victorious in Hanoi.
- August 23, 1945: The puppet government in Hue surrendered, and King Bao Dai abdicated, putting a definitive end to the monarchy in Vietnam.
- August 25, 1945: The uprising was successful in Saigon.
- September 2, 1945: President Ho Chi Minh, on behalf of the provisional government, read the declaration of independence, proclaiming the Democratic Republic of Vietnam.

The Resistance Against the French Colonialist (1945-1954)

- September 23, 1945: The French colonialists, with the assistance of the British Army, opened fire to occupy Saigon.
- Jan. 6, 1946: The first general elections were held throughout the country. The National Assembly approved the first constitution (Nov. 9, 1946).
- Feb. 28, 1946: The Chiang Kai-shek clique secretly signed with the French colonialists an agreement allowing French troops to move into North Vietnam.
- March 5, 1946: The party Central Committee met and decided to compromise with the French.
- Dec. 19, 1946: The nation-wide resistance broke out.
- Feb. 11, 1951: The Second National Congress of the party was convened. The congress decided that each Indochinese country should have its own party to meet the needs of the revolution in each country. The Communist Party of Vietnam was renamed Vietnam Workers' Party with Ho Chi Minh as president and Truong Chinh as secretary general.

- Jan 25, 1953: The party Central Committee held its first meeting and decided to launch a land reform in order to put into effect the slogan "Land to the tillers".
- Dec. 1953: The Political Bureau of the party Central Committee decided to launch the Dien Bien Phu military campaign.

The Two Strategic Revolutionary Tasks

- Nov. 1958: The party Central Committee's 14th plenum set down the basic tasks of the three-year plan for economic transformation, and economic and cultural development (1958-60).
- Jan. 1959: The party Central Committee's 15th plenum decided on the task of liberating South Vietnam and pointed out that main orientation for the revolution in the South was a violent revolution.
- April 1959: The party Central Committee's 16th plenum adopted the resolutions on agricultural collectivization, and on the transformation of capitalist industry and commerce in North Vietnam.
- Dec. 31, 1959: The first socialist constitution of Vietnam was adopted by the National Assembly.
- Sept. 5-10, 1960: The Third National Congress of the party was held in Hanoi. The 1961-65 Five-Year Plan was adopted. Ho Chi Minh was elected president, and Le Duan first secretary, of the party.
- March 1965: The U.S. imperialists escalated their war of destruction by using their air and naval forces to attack North Vietnam.
- July 17, 1966: President Ho Chi Minh issued his famous appeal "nothing is more precious than independence and freedom".
- Dec. 1967: The Political Bureau of the party Central Committee decided to launch the general offensive and uprising of spring 1968.
- Jan. 25, 1969: The U.S. imperialists had to unconditionally end their bombing of North Korea and the Paris negotiations began.
- May 1971: The party Central Committee decided to launch a strategic offensive throughout South Vietnam in 1972.
- Jan. 27, 1973: The Paris agreement on Vietnam was signed.
- March 29, 1973: The U.S. Command together with the last units of the U.S. Expeditionary Corps left South Vietnam.
- Oct. 1974 - Jan. 1975: The Political Bureau of the party Central Committee met to decide on the urgent tasks in preparation for the general offensive and general uprising to seize power and completely liberate South Vietnam.
- March 31, 1975: The Political Bureau of the party Central Committee decided to completely liberate South Vietnam in April 1975. The campaign to liberate Saigon was named after President Ho Chi Minh.
- April 30, 1975: Saigon was liberated.
- April 26, 1976: General election throughout the country. The National Assembly decided to change the country's name into the Socialist Republic of Vietnam.
- Dec. 14 - 20, 1976: The 4th national congress of the party laid down the line for the socialist revolution in the whole country and adopted the 1976-80 Five-Year Plan.
- March 18, 1979: The big-nation expansionists and hegemonists in China launched an aggressive war across all the six northern border provinces of Vietnam.
- March 27-31, 1982: The party held its 5th national congress.

VNA REVIEWS 55 YEARS OF PARTY'S STRUGGLE

OW281724 Hanoi VNA in English 1632 GMT 28 Jan 85

[Text] Hanoi VNA Jan. 28 -- More than a century ago, in 1858, the French colonialists' navy bombarded the Vietnamese coast, starting their war of conquest against Vietnam. The Nguyen dynasty, which represented the then feudal ruling class, quickly surrendered.

From then to the early 20th century, the Vietnamese people throughout the country repeatedly rose up against the invaders but without success. This was chiefly because all those insurrections lacked a correct policy that could rally the broad masses of the people and conformed to the trend of history.

Going beyond the narrow outlook of contemporary patriots, Nguyen Ai Quoc, blazed by the light of the Great October Socialist Revolution, found the right answer: "The only path to save the country and liberate the nation is the path of the proletarian revolution". After 10 years of preparation, politically, ideologically and organizationally, the Communist Party of Vietnam was founded on February 3, 1930, meeting the requirements of history and the trend of the Vietnamese revolution.

The Battle To Regain National Independence

The first battle of the party in the 1930-31 revolutionary high tide which culminated in the Nghe Tinh soviet uprising proved that the party is the intrepid vanguard and talented general staff of the Vietnamese working class, and the only leader of the Vietnamese nation. Coming into being in a semi-feudal society, loyal to Marxism-Leninism, persisting in the stand of the working class, promoting the nation's traditional patriotism and the spirit of self-sacrifice of the communist combatants, the party led the people into the baptism of fire. In April 1931, the CPV was recognized as an independent member of the Communist International.

The French imperialists white terror during 1932-35 failed to knock out the party's organization. Tens of thousands of party cadres and members and other patriotic combatants were arrested, detained, tortured or killed in most atrocious ways. However, the sublime examples of loyalty and unsubmitiveness set by the communists in prisons, at the imperialist court or before the firing squads strengthened the people's confidence in the party -- their vanguard -- in the strength of the revolution and in the nation's future of independence and freedom. The party was further tempered in that first battle.

In the second half of the 1930's in face of the increasing danger of fascism, an anti-fascist democratic front swept the world. In France, the popular front came to power. Availing itself of the new favourable conditions and combining various forms of activity, open and secret, legal and semi-legal, the party mobilized millions of people to struggle for their right to live and democratic freedoms, thus creating a new revolutionary mettle during the period of the Democratic Front (1936-39). This was actually the first exercise in struggle involving millions of people.

When the World War Two broke out in September 1939, the party Central Committee met and decided to set up the Anti-Imperialist National Unified Front (Nov. 1939) in replacement of the Democratic Front, marking an important switch in revolutionary line and method conformable to the new situation, directing the spearhead at the imperialists and their henchmen, and creating the immediate conditions for the seizure of power. In early 1941, Nguyen Ai Quoc secretly returned to Vietnam in his capacity as representative of the Communist International and presided over a meeting of the party Central Committee (May 1941). He pointed out that the immediate main task of the revolution was to liberate the nation. He decided to establish the Vietnam League for Independence, to help the fraternal peoples of Laos and Kampuchea to set up their own fronts, and to promptly set up revolutionary armed forces as the core to defend the masses' revolutionary movement.

On March 9, 1945, the Japanese staged a coup d'etat to oust the French and occupied the whole of Indochina. Right on that night, the Standing Committee of the party C.C. met, analyzed the situation and decided that the conditions for an uprising had matured.

It decided to change slogan "Drive out the Japanese fascists and the French colonialists" to the slogan "Set up the people's revolutionary power", and to launch a wide anti-Japanese revolutionary movement for national salvation as pre-condition for the general uprising. At the news of the Japanese surrender, the party issued the order for the general uprising. The well-prepared population rose up and seized power in all parts of the country. The victory of the August revolution ushered in a new era for Vietnam, the era of independence, freedom and socialism.

Leading the People in Defeating Two Big Imperialist Powers

After the Democratic Republic of Vietnam was founded, the party led the people in coping with a host of crucial trials and difficulties: 200,000 men of the Chiang Kai-shek army moved into North Vietnam allegedly to disarm the Japanese but actually to overthrow the revolutionary administration. The French staged a come-back in South Vietnam in the wake of British troops. The destiny of the nation hung by a thread.

In order to foil the Chiang Kai-shek clique's and their lackeys' scheme of isolating Vietnam and at the same time to gain time to consolidate the revolutionary power in preparation for the new fight, Vietnam compromised with the French by signing a preliminary agreement on March 6, 1945 and a modus vivendi on September 14, 1946.

On December 19, 1946, the French in an open act of treachery broadened their war of aggression to the whole of Vietnam. A nine-year resistance war began which ended with the glorious victory at Dien Bien Phu heralding the collapse of old-type colonialism on a world scale.

In mid-1954, peace was restored in Vietnam, yet history posed a new problem: The country was divided in two halves. How would the Vietnamese revolution proceed? The party affirmed that the North would embark on the socialist revolution while the South would carry out the national people's democratic revolution. The party also laid down the line for the development of the whole revolution as well as for the struggle to achieve national reunification, of which the socialist construction in the North played the decisive role. It made clear that in the national people's democratic revolution and the struggle for national reunification, the South was entrusted with the task of directly overthrowing the rule of the imperialists and their henchmen to liberate itself.

The great exploit of liberating the South sprang from many factors. The party has applied Marxism-Leninism and the military science and art to the practical conditions of Vietnam, promoted the nation's tradition combined with the strength of our time, worked out judicious policies and creatively solved many questions relating to the strategy, tactics and methods of the revolution, thus leading the people in gaining victory step by step before winning complete victory.

The Two Strategic Tasks

The historic victory of the 1975 spring offensive filled the Vietnamese people throughout the country with joy and enhanced their determination to build their socialist homeland. However, before the wounds of war were healed, the Vietnamese nation had to confront a new and extremely hard trial. The reactionaries within the Beijing ruling circles, who have long nurtured the dream of annexing Vietnam to pave the way for their expansion to Southeast Asia, started their aggressive war along Vietnam's southwestern and northern borders.

Faced with the new enemy who works hand in glove with U.S. imperialism and other reactionary forces, the party is leading the entire people to carry out the two strategic tasks of national construction and defence. The Vietnamese people have taken an initial step in defeating the dark schemes of the Beijing rulers, firmly defended the homeland, fulfilled their internationalist duty toward the fraternal Lao and Kampuchean peoples,

thus actively contributing to the common struggle for national independence in Indochina and Southeast Asia as a whole and stimulating the national liberation movement of oppressed nations throughout the world.

Over the past years, the enemy has feverishly conducted a multi-faceted war of sabotage in the hope of weakening and eventually annexing Vietnam.

In the light of the socialist revolution line charted by the 4th party congress and concretized in the resolutions of the 5th party congress and the subsequent plenum of the party Central Committee, the whole party, Army and people have made unrelenting efforts to find out an appropriate managerial mechanism aimed at building the working people's collective mastery, developing all potentials of the country, boosting production, improving the people's life, meeting the country's security and defence needs, carrying out socialist transformation, and preparing necessary conditions for the socialist industrialization in the following years on an ever bigger scale and at an ever higher tempo.

SECURITY FORCES CAPTURE 'CHINESE AGENTS'

BK291247 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2220 GMT 28 Jan 85

[From the review of NHAN DAN for 29 January]

[Text] Under a banner headline running across seven columns of page 3, "Uphold Vigilance To Protect National Security, Resolutely Defeat the Enemy's Multifaceted War of Sabotage," NHAN DAN features an article by Do Quang exposing the true face of healer (Luu Quang Thua).

(Thua), a Vietnamese of Chinese descent who speaks Mandarin fairly fluently, used to work as an interpreter for Chinese specialists who came to Vietnam to help us build roads. This phony healer was arrested and made the following confession: When China made a volte-face and betrayed Vietnam, before leaving for home Chinese advisers and specialists arranged for (Thua) to stay behind to continue working in a factory so as to monitor and investigate the situation in all fields in the border area. When China invaded our border, the Beijing intelligence agency gave (Thua) the task of causing trouble and rallying bad elements among the Hoa residents to set up the so-called Revolutionary Front for Liberation [Mawtj Traanj Cachs Mangj Giair Phongs] to collect intelligence in various areas, spread baseless rumors, and cook up stories in an attempt to erode our people's confidence in the line and policies of the party and the state.

Upholding vigilance and determined to defeat the enemy's multifaceted war of sabotage, our security combatants and people have effectively snared the whole gang of Chinese agents.

AUSTRALIAQUEENSLAND THREATENS ACTION AGAINST NZ WORKERS

BK290338 Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0130 GMT 29 Jan 85

[Text] Queensland's premier, Sir Joh Bjelke-Petersen, has threatened to take some form of action against New Zealanders working in his state if the government in Wellington bans imports of Queensland's sugar. It is the latest move in what New Zealand's prime minister, Mr Lange, has described as a silly gesture by Queensland blocking a shipment of chocolate in retaliation for New Zealand's ban on visits by nuclear-armed or -powered warships. The ban has led to strains on the ANZUS defense pact which links Australia, New Zealand, and the United States.

Mr Lange warns yesterday that if Queensland expanded its ban on New Zealand imports, then his government would retaliate and referred to a long-term sugar contract which was due to be renegotiated with Queensland firms. At a time when the world sugar market was over supplied and demand was low, Mr Lange said it would be easy for New Zealand to get its sugar elsewhere. Sir Joh Bjelke-Petersen said today that while his government probably could not restrict the majority of New Zealanders' jobs in Queensland, it could determine the fate of those in key positions.

NEW ZEALANDAFP: U.S. ASKED TO SEND MISSILE FRIGATE ON VISIT

HK291158 Hong Kong AFP in English 1148 GMT 29 Jan 85

[Text] Wellington, Jan 29 (AFP) -- New Zealand has asked the United States to send a substitute warship to New Zealand, after failing to confirm that the vessel proposed for a March visit is not nuclear-armed, a government source said today. The Labour government has banned nuclear-armed or -powered warships from its ports, although the United States says such visits are essential under the ANZUS defence pact linking Australia, New Zealand and the United States. The government source said Premier David Lange had asked the U.S. ambassador to New Zealand for a substitute vessel to make a port visit, planned at the end of the 'Sea Eagle' annual ANZUS defence exercise. Sources here said New Zealand wanted an Oliver Hazard Perry class guided missile frigate make the visit, instead of the so-far unnamed nuclear-capable warship nominated by the United States. Mr. Lange met with Ambassador H. Monroe Browne yesterday and today to discuss the visit.

The exercise, involving warships from all three countries, will be held off the Queensland coast of Australia from late February to early March. The premier said yesterday that New Zealand intelligence had been unable to determine whether the warships nominated by the United States would be carrying nuclear-arms. The issue of the visit was close to a solution, he added. It is understood New Zealand expects a response from Washington in the next few days on whether an alternative vessel might make the visit.

The authoritative book, Jane's Fighting Ships, says the guided missile frigates are armed with surface-to-air and surface-to-surface missiles which are not nuclear-armed. A total 13 of the 26 Oliver Hazard Perry frigates in service are under the U.S. Navy's Pacific Command. The U.S.S. Wadsworth, a vessel in the same class visited New Zealand in 1983.

SINGAPOREPRC FOREIGN MINISTER CRITICIZES SRV ON CAMBODIA

BK291435 Singapore Domestic Service in English 1300 GMT 29 Jan 85

[Text] The Chinese foreign minister, Mr Wu Xueqian, has accused Vietnam of double-talk on finding a solution to the Cambodian problem. He said China reserves its right to teach Hanoi a second lesson if the Vietnamese continued with their provocations. At a press conference at [name indistinct] Hotel, Mr Wu said it had become customary for the Vietnamese to carry out large-scale attacks along the Thai-Cambodian border and then indicate their willingness to talk on Cambodia. He dismissed such action as being deceptive and hollow (?statements).

The Chinese foreign minister said that the only chance for the different Cambodian resistance groups to succeed would be for them to wage a united struggle against the Vietnamese aggressors.

On the Singapore-China ties, Mr Wu said he was very pleased with the results of his visit. He said some new achievements had been made in bilateral cooperation that could be (?extended) to new fields. Mr Wu leaves tomorrow.

BANK DECLARED INSOLVENT; GOVERNMENT TAKES OVER

HK290800 Quezon City Maharlika Broadcasting System in English 0400 GMT 29 Jan 85

[Text] Deputy Central Bank Governor Carlotta Valenzuela has assured all Banco Filipino depositors they can withdraw their money in full through PNB [Philippine National Bank] in 3 to 5 days time. Valenzuela was made receiver of Banco Filipino, which was declared insolvent by the Monetary Board last week. She said arrangements are being finalized for the immediate transfer of all Banco Filipino depositors' accounts with the PNB.

[Begin Valenzuela recording] We are finalizing arrangements with PNB [words indistinct] of Banco Filipino depositors will be serviced at the PNB branch nearest a Banco Filipino branch. We ask Banco Filipino depositors to please await further announcements. In the meantime, we assure them that their deposit accounts are safe and can be drawn in full or in part. [end recording]

TANODBAYAN OPPOSES BAIL FOR 17 PRINCIPAL SUSPECTS

OW300010 Quezon City RPN Television Network in English 1100 GMT 29 Jan 85

[From the "Newswatch" program]

[Excerpt] The tanodbayan told the sandiganbayan today that it has strong evidence to prove the guilt of all the 26 accused in the Aquino-Galman double murder case. The tanodbayan's Manuel Herrera said this was reason enough for the antigraft court to deny the motion for bail filed by General Luther Custodio and 16 other principals in the case. For the other details here is Jose Carlos.

[Begin Carlos video recording] [Carlos] Today's court hearing, the first on the Aquino-Galman case, tackled several motions to allow military custody of accused soldiers and admission to bail. Arguing for his client, General Custodio and 14 Avsecom [Aviation Security Command] men, attorney Rudolfo (Timenez) said the right to bail is a constitutional mandate and a matter of right before conviction even in capital offenses. He claimed that when there is no ample evidence to prove beyond reasonable doubt the guilt of the accused in a criminal offense to post bail is allowed. (Timenez) added that the findings of the tanodbayan special investigating panel were based solely on the two Agrava reports which he added were based on conjectures and speculations not on concrete, direct, and positive evidence.

Sandiganbayan presiding justice, Manuel Pamaran, said both prosecution and defense have agreed to a pre-trial conference before a resolution on this petition is issued by the antigraft court. He said the pre-trial conference will be held after Friday's arraignment of the 26 accused led by General Fabian C. Ver and General Prospero Olivas who were both implicated as accessories to the crime. [end recording]

TOLENTINO ON 'POSITIVE' STABILIZATION MEASURES

HK290758 Quezon City Maharlika Broadcasting System in English 0400 GMT 29 Jan 85

[Text] Foreign Affairs Minister Arturo Tolentino says the government's stabilization measures are moving ahead on the right track. Tolentino said this is indicated by positive signs emerging since the last quarter of 1984. He cited, among others, the inflation rate, which went down starting November, and the [words indistinct] of the budget deficit at 20 to 25 percent. Tolentino said this only shows that the government measures are on the right direction, providing for a breathing spell for even harder times ahead.

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31 Jan 1985

